

**Ottawa Guild of Potters**  
**General Meeting in person: Hintonburg Community Centre**  
**Record of Decision**  
**DATE : March 10, 2026, 6 :30pm**

**MINUTES**

**Executive Member Attendance / Présence des membres**

<b>President</b>	Liz Fournier	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Standards</b>	Jocelyn Jenkins	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Vice-President</b>	Stephanie Bailey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Membership</b>	Carol Holmes-Kerr	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Past President</b>	Natalie Gosselin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Secretary</b>	Nicole Bijkerk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Communications</b>	Nancy Riggs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Exhibition</b>	Joanna Richardson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Communications</b>	Lisa Butler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Finance</b>	Christine Chesser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Programming (Workshops and Presentations)</b>	Carmen Gervais	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Item #	Agenda Items	Member accountable	Decision/ Discussion
	<b>Welcome, Introduction of new members</b>	Stephanie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting called to order at 6:38pm by Stephanie , meeting chair</li> <li>Introduction of 8 executive made.</li> <li>11 members present.</li> </ul> <p>Introduction and welcoming of 5 new members for month of February. Melissa Henderson, Caroline Sheppard, Amy Arts, Ishtar Warda, &amp; Diana Cooke. Warm welcome to OGP !</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
	<i>Approval of todays agenda, last months minutes</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>_Christine C. _motioned to accept agenda, Joanna R. _ 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, carried.</li> <li>_Alexandra T. _motioned to approve Feb 11, 2026 minutes, _Nancy R. _2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, carried.</li> </ul>
	Financial	Christine	<p>Report given by Christine C:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are currently on budget with no anomalies. Working monthly with Jenn to keep books balanced.</li> <li>If anyone has any specific questions related to the finances, they are welcome to contact Christine directly. <a href="mailto:chesserchristine@gmail.com">chesserchristine@gmail.com</a></li> <li>An idea/ question was brought forth of perhaps a workshop on 'taxes for artists' information session ran by an accountant. Was well received and much interest was expressed.</li> </ul>
	Exhibition	Joanna	<p>Report given by Joanna R:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 16-29, 2026 <i>Celebrating Clay:</i></li> </ul>

			<p>We are thrilled to announce our Celebrating Clay Exhibition, Vessels for Spring, opening on March 16th at Scrim's Florist!</p> <p>This exhibition features the work of 12 artists: Amy Bell, Jane Bryttan, Martine Campeau, Gaia Chernushenko, Jordan Danger, Elizabeth Davies, Carmen Gervais, Barb Minish, Joanna Richardson, Nancy Riggs, Isobel Salole, and Lucy Willemssen.</p> <p>Join us on March 16th from 5 to 7pm to view their pieces. There will be light refreshments, voting for "People's Choice", and the announcement of "Scrim's Choice"!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Juried Exhibition. The exhibition will be held during the Spring Clay Festival, May 1st-3rd. Applications will be open from April 10th to April 21st. Our juror this year is Mat Karas, a ceramic artist and Assistant Professor from Concordia University. 3 entries max per member, \$30 for first entry and \$5/each afterwards. 9 Awards to be presented. Room for 35 pieces. Can be functional or sculptural.</li> <li>• If you have specific questions, please contact Joanna at <a href="mailto:exhibitions@ottawaguildofpotters.ca">exhibitions@ottawaguildofpotters.ca</a></li> </ul>
	Standards and Education	Jocelyn	<p>Jocelyn J. sends her regrets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When applications open for spring sale, Jocelyn will be booking standards meet and greets for 'new to sale' potters.</li> <li>• If anyone has questions about the process, don't hesitate, please contact Jocelyn Jenkins at <a href="mailto:jocelynjenkins1@gmail.com">jocelynjenkins1@gmail.com</a></li> </ul>
	Communication	Nancy/ Lisa	<p>Nancy and Lisa delivered report together:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 4 person committee including Kyla and Dawn have been focusing on Great Bowls of Fire promotion for this upcoming Saturday. You can view all the materials on the website, socials and guild forums these past couple weeks.</li> <li>• Nancy showcased some new signage that the guild has purchased designed by the comms team. Tonight 2 banners were displayed. More items being made in weeks to come. These will be used at all events, universal signage.</li> <li>• Lisa &amp; Christine are continually working on Google Workspace mainly focused on organizing executive files to mainstream storage of all guild activity in one place.</li> <li>• Nancy and Lisa expressed they will be both seeking to pass the communications team leadership rolls to new candidates. Please, if you are interested and want to find out more, please contact them.</li> <li>• Any questions or input please contact the communications team via email.</li> </ul>
	Membership	Carol	<p>Carol H-K sends her regrets. Stephanie delivered her report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 192 paid members! Please welcome the following new members: Melissa Henderson, Caroline Sheppard, Ishtar Warda, Diana Cooke</li> <li>• Membership renewal begins April 1st.</li> <li>• the early bird fee of \$55, available only April 1st to April 30th. After April 30th the membership fee will be \$65.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please note also that you must have renewed your membership to be eligible to participate in the sale</li> </ul>
	Sales	Liz	<p>Liz sends her regrets. Stephanie delivered report. Spring Sale May 1-3, 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liz is in contact with Bernadette about application to spring sale. Aiming to have the application ready for March 17. 45 spots. Working on clarification/details how to handle 2 people sharing 1 spot to mitigate confusion in sign up process. Bernadette working on small technical items to be ironed out.</li> <li>Suggestions discussed to have Bernadette do a sample run on the system before sign-ups.</li> <li>New signage has been ordered and arriving soon. Nancy displayed the new design on 2 signs tonight. Thank you Nancy.</li> </ul>
	Programming	Carman	<p>Carmen delivered report: UPCOMING MEETING ACTIVITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tonight, March 10, After-meeting activity, Artist statement “speed dating”. Prepared by Joanna R &amp; Stephanie B.</li> <li>April 14. General meeting activity. Handbuilding, templates, foam, tar paper</li> </ul> <p><i>WORKSHOPS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report on Sarah Pike demonstration workshops x2. Was a great success. Carmen working on 2027 perhaps having her come for 2-5 day workshop or masterclass.</li> <li>March 28-29, 2026 Joan Bruneau 2 day altered form and surface decoration workshop. Loam. SOLD OUT</li> <li>June 6&amp;7, 2026 Collette Beardall. Raku workshops. Will be 1 day workshops X 2. Location will be in Chelsea QC at OGP members studio Martine Campeau. More information coming in April. ( discussion was had about possible saggar firing with member Michael Hermann) Also Wade Vinneau from Hintonburg had some ideas for alternative firing...Natalie Waddell from Hamilton. Wade to speak to Carmen.</li> </ul> <p>Lita Cormier mentorship program is still being worked on. Updates next meeting.</p> <p><i>CLAY FESTIVAL</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carmen has group of 4 programming team members working on event schedule for the clay festival. Similar to last year with ongoing demonstrations for wheel and handbuilding. Kids area, adult area. All was a great hit and success last year.</li> <li>Working on having a VIP promote the Guild at the Sale, Clay Festival &amp; Juried Exhibition. With CTV news, local papers, socials, etc.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you would like to volunteer, please contact Carmen.</li> </ul> <p>Members were encouraged to contact Carmen to provide input for future workshops and educational activities. <a href="mailto:Carmenzhome@yahoo.com">Carmenzhome@yahoo.com</a></p>
	Great Bowls of Fire	Jackie Lyons	<p>Jackie delivered report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Great Bowls of Fire event, a fundraiser for the Ottawa Food Bank, which will take place on March 14th at the Glebe Community Center. The event has raised over \$248,000 for the food bank in the past 20 years.</li> <li>Jackie will appear on CTV news tomorrow AM promoting GBF event. GO Jackie !</li> <li>ALEX NOREAU is coordinating the volunteers for the event. If you would like to get involved, please reach out to <a href="mailto:alex@ottawafoodbank.ca">alex@ottawafoodbank.ca</a></li> <li>Jane Brytton will coordinate the additional bowls for sale. If any questions, please reach out to her at <a href="mailto:jbpottery@bryttan.com">jbpottery@bryttan.com</a></li> <li>Jackie Lyons is the information highway of this event, if you have any questions : <a href="mailto:jackie24lyons@gmail.com">jackie24lyons@gmail.com</a></li> </ul>
	Newsletter	Bernadette	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you would like anything in the newsletter, all submissions to be into Bernadette first Friday of every month. <a href="mailto:b.lapierre@bell.net">b.lapierre@bell.net</a></li> </ul>
	Ceramics Network	Natalie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natalie reported that renewal is coming up. Discussion was had around new password will be needed and will be given upon active membership. Natalie, Bernadette to work out best details and process for this.</li> </ul>
	Adjourn :		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>_at 7:46 pm. _Joanna R. motioned to adjourn meeting, ._Carmen G. 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor. Carried.</li> </ul>
	Program	Joanna & Stephanie	<p>Interactive "Artist statement speed dating" activity.</p> <p>Stephanie and Joanna delivered much food for thought tonight with pre-guided questions and hand outs.</p> <p>Much discussion was spawned around how to form an artist statement representing yourself and body of work as well as for your individual pieces. We have a wealth of knowledge in our guild. Was so inspiring, these discussions will not end here ! Talk of further group discussion are going to be in the works. Stay tuned.</p>