Orangeville & District Horticultural Society
General Meeting
Seniors Centre -26 Bythia Street
Tuesday, September 8, 2026
President: Vivian Petho

1. O Canada and Land Acknowledgement
2. Announcements:
    a. Guests and new members welcomed
    b. B. Ackerman acknowledged and thanked all who made the summer coach trip so fabulous.
    c. Kim Van Ryn of BOSS outlined the collaboration between our two communities and the development of the Opportunity Garden. This program provides our neurodiverse community the chance to engage within the community, serve a vital role and provide self dignity. With BOSS members genuine and consistent attention, the program has seen over 400 pounds of sprouts planted, harvested and delivered to the Orangeville Food Bank.
    d. Fall District 7 Meeting – Saturday October 17; hosted by Erin & Hillsburgh Garden Club at Aboyne Hall at Wellington County Museum & Archives from 9:30-12:30
    e. Thanked volunteers for treats. October volunteers: C. Buckley, M. Jelly and L. Nash
    f. Chris Cann -Spring Plant Sale scheduled for Saturday, May 29. Thanked committee members and all those who donated plants for helping to make the 2026 sale so successful. Reminded members that they are always in need of additional help and as fall arrives, to consider splitting and potting up plants for next

year's sale. Chris is looking to step back from overseeing this role, please consider stepping up. The role is largely overseeing the success of this fundraiser.

g. Membership renewals available now – New year officially begins November 1st.
h. 2026 Scholarship winner-thank you card read from Kieran George
i. Superstar Award – B. Ackerman. This new award is chosen by members for members. For members who do or bring that little bit of something extra to our society. This month congratulates V. Lepe for her enthusiasm, involvement in plant shows and help in the kitchen
j. "Youth Corner" – Ann Atzori starting in November. Consider joining up a fellow family member for $2, activities will all be online
k. Flower Show Sponsorship – Ann Atzori -invited members to sponsor any aspect of the flower shows
l. In Memoriam – Janet Speers -Suzanne Orlando provided an overview of Janet's society involvement

3. Donna McAvoy introduced Shaun Booth from In Our Nature who provides practical designs to increase diversity and reduce maintenance

Speaker: Shaun Booth – "Redefining Four Seasons Interest with Native Plants"
Highlighted the benefit of native plants by showcasing a dozen or so species through the year. Thus, wild geraniums, golden alexlanders, serviceberry, evening primrose, etc. should be celebrated not just during their brief shining moment of flowering but throughout the entire year for the depth of beauty they provide the garden. The life and diversity they support. This was shown in larvae, birds and bees

feeding, moths and butterflies feeding, insects overwintering. Special mention given to goldenrod and asters. Don't just think of the roadside variety, they have over 100 species and they are the #1 and #2 host plant in our area.

inournature.ca for resources and additional information
inournaturegardens @gmail.com -email

Donna McAvoy thanked speaker

4. Raffle drawn

5. Kitchen and set-up volunteers thanked.

Adjourned: 8:25pm

Next General Meeting: Tuesday October 13, 2026