



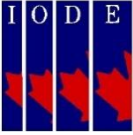
IODE

THE NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA

2025 Annual Report

126th National Annual Meeting

**2025 Annual Report
(Printed May 2026)**



2026 IODE FOUNDER'S DAY MESSAGE



Over the years, IODE has celebrated its founders during the month of February. Margaret Polson Murray's picture peers out from the Founders' Day message and her vision in 1900, of a Canada supported by groups of women giving service to their communities across the country, is honoured. Last year, IODE New Brunswick invited IODE members from near and far to join them as they kicked off IODE's 125th Anniversary celebrations on February 12, 2025 in Fredericton's Council Chambers at City Hall. In their invitation, and on the day of the meeting itself, attendees in person and via Zoom, were taken on a trip down memory lane to acknowledge the incredible success of the first chartered IODE Chapter in Canada.

Margaret Polson Murray's letter to mayors of major cities across Canada, seeking aid to Canadians departing to fight alongside the Empire forces in South Africa, was recognized. Mayor Harry Beckwith was applauded for responding to her letter

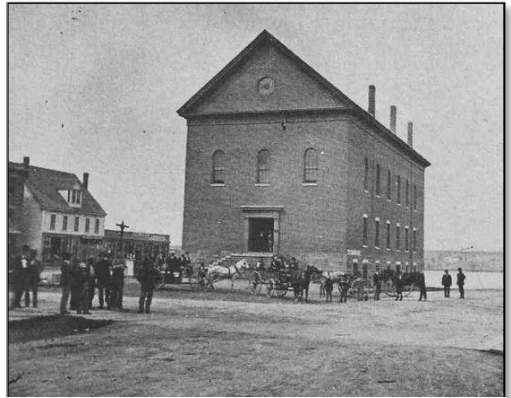
with an invitation to the women of Fredericton, to attend a meeting in the Council Chambers at City Hall. And most importantly, the tenacity of the 37 women who journeyed to this meeting in wicked winter conditions on January 15, 1900, was acclaimed as astonishing to say the least!

From that meeting, and thanks to the collaborative determination of all involved, IODE was born and the date of February 13th was established as the date used to reflect on IODE's roots!

For 126 years, IODE has evolved with the times and the changing needs of the country. At the 125th National Annual Meeting, attendees were treated to an incredible slideshow demonstrating how IODE projects have developed through the years. While IODE's endeavours look very different today than they did in the past, the determination, dedication, and passion to make a difference in individuals' lives, qualities that motivated the remarkable women of 1900, remain just as powerful today. Regardless of the date chosen to recognize IODE's beginnings this year, be sure to raise a glass to the women in your chapter who give their time and energy to impact lives in your community year after year.

**What will this positive difference look like in 2026?
Keep Telling Your IODE Story!**

Karen Dalton
National President



*Old Fredericton City Hall
Photo from Provincial Archives of New Brunswick,
Taylor Collection*

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

Chris Bateman, Secretary: Highlights of 2025

This year marked the 125th Anniversary of IODE Canada. On this momentous occasion, we were *Embracing our Future Celebrating our Past*. One hundred and twenty-five years ago, Margaret Polson Murray had an idea to join together with women for the benefit of others. Her goal was to form an organization:

- (a) to promote education of all kinds, and particularly the study of history and current questions, and to advance and assist such study by the preservation of tangible reminders of the course of history;
- (b) to care for the widows, orphans and dependents of Canadian and Empire [Commonwealth] soldiers, sailors and airmen during war, in time of peace or under sickness, accident or reverses of fortune;
- (c) to forward all such good work as may be for the relief of those in poverty or distress irrespective of race, colour, creed or sex;
- (d) to assist in the progress of the arts; and
- (e) to give donations for charitable purposes.

These goals offered members a strong foundation for the future of IODE. The enormous amount of collective and individual work was accomplished with optimism and a belief in these goals continued. IODE members spent countless hours working with and for people with a focus on Citizenship, Education and Services.

IODE had a Board of Directors comprised of 15 Directors, the nine National Officers and the six Provincial Presidents. The Directors met eight times between 01 January and 31 December 2025. Directors met eight times for Directors' Discussion and Planning Meetings. At these meetings, the input of the National Councillors during the National Advisory Council meetings was considered carefully as a step in deciding direction and specific actions. Directors' meetings commenced with a sharing of personal thoughts and ideas about a specifically asked question to enhance the insights into fellow directors and ended with a reflective "Something to think about..." quote. The entire focus of all discussions was based on acknowledging and capitalizing on the successes of members.

The feedback from the 2024 Fall Chats led to the commitment to continue with Chats in the fall of 2025. Using further input from National Councillors, data from a Nation-wide Membership Survey during the summer of 2025 and the needs of the organization, three fall interactive Chats were planned, focussed on membership, public relations and leadership. The responses from these 3 fall Chats were later debriefed and utilized to determine Chats in the spring and fall of 2026.

Information from the summer's Membership Survey also played a role in informing the Directors how primary members could be supported by National initiatives. These debriefings lead to the design and launch of a new rack card in January; the pivot of the **Share a Story... Bring a Book** National Annual Meeting campaign to a supported local initiative; and ongoing conversations about the financial status of the organization and how to maximize the benefit of a bequest from the late member Barbara Jones. A commitment was made to hold a special board meeting in September of 2026 dedicated solely to the future financial health of IODE.

The Directors began brainstorming on how the organization could capture the collective support that IODE channels towards children and youth across Canada and highlight this fact to members and the public. Preliminary action was taken to gather data.

Making the 2026 Virtual National Annual Meeting a success became a deliberation topic for national councillors and directors alike. The collective wisdom of both groups led to the decision to keep the spotlight on the success of members. From there, the theme and logo of "Celebrating You!" was chosen; the content and format of a 2-day (plus 1) conference was established; the choice of highlighting

tried and true promotional strategies, celebrating the members' support of IODE Violet Downey and children and youth in Labrador for over 40 years was confirmed; and the promotional strategies of the meeting were determined.

During the year, the Directors' proved over and over that, "Many ideas grow better when transplanted into another mind than the one where they sprang up." *Oliver Wendell Holmes.*

They continued to advocate on behalf of the members of IODE to ensure chapters were supported. The IODE Canada Board of Directors provided updated information about the organization and sought advice on a regular basis from the National Advisory Committee (NAC). The NAC was comprised of 94 members from all provinces, including officers from the provinces on the NAC by right of office. The Advisory Committee met nine times. All regulations and decisions concerning the business and disbursement of funds of the National Chapter were the responsibility of the Board of Directors.

Noteworthy Correspondence

His Majesty King Charles III was pleased to receive the Resolutions of Loyalty sent on the occasion of the 125th National Annual Meeting held at Western University, London, ON, from The National Chapter of Canada IODE and from the provincial chapters following their annual meetings. IODE continued to enjoy corresponding with the Private Secretary to His Majesty when letters were exchanged at the time of the National Annual Meeting, the passing of Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent and Christmas.

Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Mary Simon CC, CMM, COM, CQ, CD, the Lieutenant Governors of all provinces and Commissioners of the Territories appreciated receiving the IODE Annual Report along with the minutes of the 125th National Annual Meeting.

Honorary President and Vice-Presidents

It was IODE's pleasure that Her Honour, Salma Lakhani, AOE, BSC, LLD (Hon), Lieutenant Governor of Alberta; Her Honour, Anita Neville, PM, OM, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba; Her Honour The Honourable Edith Dumont, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario; The Honourable M. Bernadette McIntyre, SOM, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan; The Honourable Mike Savage, ONS, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia (wife is Darlene); The Honourable Dr. Wassim Salamoun, OPEI, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island (wife is Marie); The Honourable Manon Jeannotte, EMBA, ASC, Lieutenant Governor of Quebec; Her Honour, Mrs. Joan Marie J. Aylward, ONL, Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador; The Honourable Louise Imbeault, OC, ONB, Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick; and The Honourable Wendy Cocchia, CM, OBC, LLD (Hon), Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia graciously consented to continue to serve as Honorary Vice-Presidents of IODE Canada by supporting our mission during their terms of office.

Letters of acceptance on their appointments as Honorary Vice-Presidents were received from Past National Presidents: Suzanne Williams, Marty Dalton, Sandra Connery, Pamela Gallagher, Chris Bateman, Catherine Moore, Ann Dyer, E. Anne Mason, Bonnie Rees, Carol McCall and Jane Cushing.

Congratulations and Commendations were expressed to

- IODE members who received awards and special recognition for community service, recipients of the IODE 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60-year pins and members with over 60 years of dedicated service to IODE, life membership recipients and chapters celebrating special anniversaries.

Visits of the President and National Officers

The President, Officers/Directors and other members of the National Advisory Committee represented IODE Canada virtually and in person at:

- Primary chapter annual meetings, Anniversary celebrations, Remembrance Day services, special events and fundraisers
- IODE British Columbia Provincial Annual Meeting 05 April 2025 Coast Tsawwassen Inn, Tsawwassen
- IODE Ontario Provincial Annual Meeting on 11 April 2025 at the Hamilton Club
- IODE Nova Scotia Provincial Annual Meeting on 16 April 2025 at St. Luke's Anglican Church, Dartmouth
- IODE New Brunswick Provincial Annual Meeting 25 to 27 April 2025 at Government House Fredericton by President Jane Cushing
- IODE Alberta Provincial Annual Meeting 25 to 27 April 2025 in Lacombe, Alberta by Vice President Karen Dalton
- IODE Prince Edward Island Provincial Annual Meeting on 14 May 2025 by President Jane Cushing
- National Remembrance Day Service with chapters in Ottawa on 11 November by the President of IODE Laurentian Susan Sibbitt

Memberships and Subscriptions

Canadian National Exhibition Association; Canadian Children's Book Centre; Commonwealth Countries League; General Federation of Women's Clubs; International Peace Garden Inc.; The Monarchist League of Canada; The Victoria League for Commonwealth Friendship; and Volunteer Canada

Permission was granted to

- IODE Trillium 2023, to apply for a grant of up to \$500 First Book Canada and the Bank of Montreal purchase books for our adopted school, Kattawapiskak Elementary School
- IODE Ontario, to apply for a \$12,600 grant from the Seniors Community Grant Program – Ontario Government for their Membership Pilot Project – Staying Connected, Reducing Isolation and Enhancing Well-being
- IODE Catherine McVaen, Dresden, ON, to apply for a \$20,000 grant from the Chatham Kent Municipal Grant Community Project to support the production of a documentary on the historic Dresden Cave
- IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia, ON, to apply for a \$5,000 grant from the Lambton County Creative Grant Program to host an IODE Extravaganza luncheon /tea with the assistance of the Lambton Youth Choir
- IODE Trillium 2023, to apply for a grant of up to \$500 from the Bridging the Gap program, First Book Canada, to purchase books for their adopted school at Muskrat Dam
- IODE Bemersyde, Campbellford, ON, to apply for a grant in the amount of \$4,000 from the Community Foundation Campbellford Seymour and Northumberland to install a spotlight system for illuminating the town cenotaph donated by IODE in 1926
- IODE Atlantic Charter, St. Stephen, New Brunswick, to apply for a grant from First Books Canada to augment their donation of books to their assisted classes with additional books, book bags and stickers
- IODE BC to continue the RCMP Community Service Award for another five years through IODE Jessie F. Gordon following a donation of \$4,000
- IODE BC to continue laying an IODE BC wreath at the cenotaph in downtown Vancouver through IODE Jessie F. Gordon for five years following a donation of \$1,000

- IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia, ON, to apply for a grant of \$4,000 from the Catherine Wilson Foundation, Sarnia, ON, to provide awards for four graduating students at \$1,000 each to enter training in the traditional trades
- IODE Honourable Malcolm Cameron, Sarnia, ON, to apply for a grant of \$1,500 from the Catherine Wilson Foundation, Sarnia, ON, to provide an award for a woman pursuing an education in a skilled trade and nontraditional occupation
- IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia, ON, to apply for a grant of \$1,500 from the Community Futures Lambton, Sarnia, to provide funding for a home tour of historical homes and businesses in Petrolia
- IODE Baron Tweedsmuir, Olds, AB, to apply for a grant in the amount of \$1,000 from the Mountain View Power Beautification Grant with the Town of Olds to supply window coverings for the chapter's IODE Second Time Around Gift Shop

Elections and Appointments

- IODE BC President Carole Yorke was appointed Chair of the 100th Anniversary Grant Program Committee
- Services Officer Liz Hancock was appointed Chair of The National Chapter of Canada IODE Violet Downey Book Award Committee
- Past National President Bonnie Rees was appointed Archivist
- Aileen Reid was appointed Coordinator of the Labrador Adopt-a-Class Program
- Past National President Jane Cushing was appointed Coordinator of the Labrador Adopt-a-Class Program
- First Vice-President and Communications and Public Relations Officer Renate Schuetz and Second Vice-President and Education Officer Helen Danby were appointed Co-Chairs of the 2026 National Annual Meeting Committee
- Celebrations Officer Natalie Denesovych was appointed Liaison between IODE Canada and those chapters under National jurisdiction: Manitoba, Quebec, Saskatchewan and Yukon until her resignation due to ill health
- Past National President Jane Cushing was appointed Chair of the Labrador Bursary Committee
- Past National President and Citizenship Officer Catherine Moore was appointed Chair of the National Life Membership Committee
- Past National President Jane Cushing and Second Vice-President and Education Officer Helen Danby were named Co-Chairs of the 125th Anniversary Committee
- Past National President, Treasurer and Constitution Officer Carol McCall was appointed the 2025-2026 representative of IODE Canada to the Canadian National Exhibition Association
- Past National President Jane Cushing and Betsy Thompson were elected members-at-large to the 2025-2026 Head Office Investment Committee
- Chris Bateman and Bev Grubb were elected members-at-large to the 2025-2026 War Memorial Head Office Committee
- Services Officer Liz Hancock (Chair), Past National President and Secretary Chris Bateman, President Karen Dalton, Past National President Jane Cushing, Second Vice-President and Education Officer Helen Danby, Gail Delaney, National War Memorial Officer Hazel MacLeod, Past National President E. Anne Mason, Margaret Meathrel, Past National President, Treasurer and Constitution Officer Carol McCall, Past National President and Citizenship Officer Catherine Moore, Jeffrey Canton and Martha Scott were appointed readers for The National Chapter of Canada IODE Violet Downey Book Award Committee
- Michelle Batty, Natalie Denesovych, Anne Lawless, Linda Reade and Betsy Thompson were elected members of the Nominating Committee for the election of the Board of Directors for 2025-2026

Remembrance

In times of illness or bereavement, letters were sent to members and friends of the National Advisory Committee. We remember the following ladies for their

particular service to IODE:

Kathryn (Dolly) Blauveldt
President, IODE New Brunswick 1978 – 1981

Natalie Denesovych
Celebrations Officer, Co Membership Officer
Co Chair of the National Annual Meeting
Liaison with Chapters Under National Jurisdiction

Shirley Lamont
National Public Relations Officer and Services Officer

Margaret McKay McNeil
President, IODE New Brunswick 2019 – 2021 and 2025 -2026

Muriel Elizabeth (Bette) Parks
President, IODE New Brunswick 1999 - 2001

Marie (Locke) Westlake
President IODE Ontario 1993 – 1995
Vice-President, National Education Officer and National War Memorial Officer

Anne White
President, IODE Nova Scotia
Vice-President, National Standard Bearer and Chair of Labrador Adopt-A-Class

Our work today is an enduring tribute not only to their high ideals but also to their dedication. A list of obituaries of IODE members was sent to chapters with the IODE Canada *National News*. Their contributions to IODE will not be forgotten.

Bequests and Donations

Members, friends and family have been very generous in forwarding bequests and In Memoriam donations following the death of loved ones. Some awards are granted yearly by IODE Canada from the interest earned on In Memoriam contributions made in the past. General donations in times of celebration and other occasions were also received.

Chapters across Canada were grateful for these donations, which ensured the stability and permanence of IODE.

Members were encouraged to make IODE their Charity of Choice and requested that their family members remember IODE when distributing estate funds or completing their own financial planning to ensure that IODE continues to flourish as an effective national women's organization.

Expression of Appreciation

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the National Advisory Committee and IODE members across Canada, it is an honour to express appreciation to our National President Karen Dalton. She led with positive thinking, passion, experience and good judgment and her focus was based on acknowledging and capitalizing on the successes of members, public relations and leadership with an eye on how chapters and members could celebrate the 125th Anniversary of IODE. We thank her for her enthusiasm, vision and effective collaboration throughout the first year of her Presidency as she enthusiastically represented IODE Canada from coast to coast.

Office Administrator Mary Gan has been with Head Office for eleven years

and works tirelessly on behalf of IODE. Roma Dick continues to work as Administrative Assistant after over 25 years of faithful service to IODE Canada. Sincere appreciation is conveyed to the devoted Head Office staff for their support, loyalty, dedication and sense of humour.

125th Anniversary Committee Annual Report - Jane Cushing and Helen Danby

Thank you to every member who helped make the 125th Anniversary year such a success. Your dedication, generosity, and kindness continue to carry IODE's mission forward — in our communities, across our country, and beyond.

Across Canada, members marked the 125th Anniversary in wonderful and creative ways with year-long, community-centred service that combined celebration with practical support. Chapters increased visibility through local media, public displays, community events, and social media, while using anniversary materials to reinforce their chapter's history and mission.

Throughout the year, chapters enhanced their donations in multiples of 125 to represent IODE's 125th Anniversary. Many chapters used the promotional tools offered by the National Chapter to encourage publicity of this important milestone. The items used most frequently were the 125th bookmarks, bookplates, stickers, buttons, anniversary logo, acts of kindness checklist and Friend of IODE poster. Many members wore the 125th Anniversary shirts to proudly promote IODE.

Support for education and literacy remained a consistent focus, including school awards and bursaries, book donations for libraries and classrooms, and early-literacy initiatives. Many projects also strengthened local safety nets—food banks, women's shelters, soup kitchens, and community resource programs—often through targeted drives (personal care items, warm clothing, socks, and other essentials) timed to seasonal needs.

Members extended outreach beyond their own communities through ongoing support to Northern and Indigenous communities, including shipments of books, medical supplies, clothing, handmade items, and holiday stockings. Chapters also highlighted remembrance and care through projects for veterans and first responders, visits and kindness initiatives for seniors and long-term care residents, and community health and wellness efforts (including activity challenges and wellness supplies for students). Members honoured our history, supported our communities, and welcomed new friends — all in the true spirit of IODE.

Fundraising and partnerships helped amplify impact, with teas, luncheons, auctions, trivia events, craft sales, and thrift-store work supporting both National anniversary initiatives and locally identified priorities. Throughout the year, members emphasized "acts of kindness" as a unifying theme—demonstrating that the anniversary was not only a milestone to commemorate, but also a practical recommitment to service.

- Education and literacy: awards, bursaries, book and classroom support, early-literacy outreach.
- Community essentials: food security, personal care and hygiene support, warm clothing and winter supplies.
- Northern outreach: shipments and handmade items supporting remote and Indigenous communities.
- Veterans, seniors and well-being: remembrance, visitation and kindness initiatives, and wellness supports.
- Awareness and engagement: public events, displays, media, and online outreach to share IODE's mission.

By the Numbers — Across All Chapters

How our chapters used the 125th Anniversary promotional materials:

- Kindness: 21 chapters
- Bookmarks: 34 chapters
- 125th Logo: 22 chapters
- Buttons: 25 chapters
- Book stickers: 25 chapters
- Bookplates: 24 chapters
- Shirt: 23 chapters
- Friend: 24 chapters
- Provincial history: 12 chapters
- Videos: 13 chapters
- Press template: 6 chapters
- Annigram: 9 chapters
- Ask Letter: 1 chapter

British Columbia

IODE Jessie F. Gordon, Vancouver; Warm socks were collected at the September meeting, and 125+ pairs were donated to an RCMP liaison in Prince George for remote Northern communities. The chapter shared posts on Facebook, Instagram, and X, and distributed labelled “Born to Read” book-bags to kindergarten classes at three schools. Four Grade 7 citizenship awards were presented, and year-round service included the Babies in Our Community Tea and sending items to families in remote Northern BC.

IODE Richmond, Richmond; The chapter held a June potluck dinner at a member’s home and donated \$200 to the 125th Celebration Fund as well as \$125 to the local Food Bank. Members assisted with meals, medical appointments, shopping, and childcare, and supported the soup kitchen and Meals on Wheels. Books were donated to Harbour House transitional housing for women and children, along with \$200 in Starbucks gift cards and coffee, and gently used baby items were donated to Baby Go Round. A Christmas Bazaar was held jointly with IODE Jessie F. Gordon.

Alberta

IODE Annie May Jackson, Edmonton; The chapter celebrated the 125th all year long and donated \$1,250 to TerraCentre as well as two \$125 gift cards to WINGS. Members performed hundreds of acts of kindness, donated 125 books to four assistive agencies, and contributed \$125 to Share a Story. Lap robes were made for Ronald McDonald House using 125 knitted squares, and Echoes, social media, and IODE brochures were used to raise awareness.

IODE Baron Tweedsmuir, Olds; The chapter celebrated its 90th Anniversary in April and shared information about the 125th Anniversary, with scrapbooks, awards, and chapter history on display. Members donated 125 books to the hospital and seniors’ residence (with bookplates and bookmarks), along with 125 cans of food to the food bank, 125 newborn bags to the hospital, 125 reclaimed stuffed animals to the hospital, and 125 knitted slippers to Ronald McDonald House.

IODE Bow Fort, Calgary; The chapter hosted a May High Tea with other Calgary chapters and prepared sweet treat bags for service personnel. Members carried out acts of kindness, donation drives, and pay-it-forward initiatives, and donated \$125 to the National Education Fund. The chapter sponsored 1,250 brown bag lunches and donated 125 cans of food to the Veterans Food Bank, 125 bras to shelter and outreach, and 125 toques to schools and daycares.

IODE Colonel James MacLeod, Calgary; In late 2024, the chapter donated \$5,000 to the 125th Anniversary Fund and later hosted a May High Tea with Calgary chapters. The chapter donated \$1,250 to the Calgary Library Book Foundation, contributed canned goods to the University of Calgary Food Bank, and—together with four Calgary chapters—donated \$12,250 to Fear is Not Love Calgary women’s shelter (Oasis Room). Bookmarks and bookplates were used on donations.

IODE Dardanelles, Carstairs; In June, the chapter partnered with the Town of Carstairs Heritage Festival and sponsored the petting zoo for \$1,500, providing chocolate bars to the first 125 children. The chapter's Thrift Store operates year-round in support of the community, and members made visits to a Seniors Lodge. Donations included \$125 to the Olds Special Olympics swim meet, two boxes of copy paper and 125 Anniversary bookmarks to the Carstairs Library, and \$125 to sister chapter Mt. Temple. Across all 125th projects, \$2,038.90 was contributed, and members also collected \$1.25 per member at meetings for the 125th Anniversary Box.

IODE Ethel Cuts, St. Albert; Member Valerie Braiden set a goal to knit 125 baby toques and completed 88 toques.

IODE Evolve, Virtual; Members attended the Fredericton City Hall event in February, participated in Founder's Day in Saint John, and joined an October afternoon celebration as well as the May Calgary High Tea. The chapter donated \$125 to the Anniversary Fund, \$125 to a BC food bank, and \$300 to a QC food bank. Members donated 125 books to a women's shelter (with bookplates and bookmarks), 125 food items to outreach, and 125 cupcakes quarterly, and provided tie-dye T-shirt supplies for a school camp. The chapter also donated 125 items of children's clothing to a thrift store and increased social media activity to spread the IODE message.

IODE Frontenac, Stettler; The chapter followed IODE Canada's focus for each three-month grouping, and a November fundraiser highlighted both IODE's 125 years and the chapter's 99 years. The chapter completed 125 Acts of Kindness in the community, stocked a Wellness Closet at the local high school with 125+ donated items, and made a \$125 chapter donation for laundry baskets, soap, and shampoo. A fudge fundraiser was held throughout Stettler town and county, and \$125 of proceeds was donated to the Stettler and District Foodbank.

IODE Fort Calgary, Calgary; On May 4, 2025, the chapter held an afternoon tea with all Calgary chapters and invited former members to attend. Members collected 125 cans of food for the Veterans Food Bank, made 125 Christmas cards for veterans via the Food Bank, donated 125 young children's board books to Louise Dean School (with 125th seals), and donated 125 comfort dolls to the Children's Cottage. Bookmarks and pamphlets were also used for promotion.

IODE Lord Lascelles, Lacombe; In October 2024, the chapter donated \$1,250 to Team Jigger and later awarded two \$1,000 high school scholarships (November 2024). Members donated 125 flannelette hearts to Ronald McDonald House and contributed \$500 to National in recognition of the 125th Anniversary. The chapter compiled its history for the IODE Alberta History Project and promoted IODE through an Active Living Fair display, a Seniors Expo, and a Mary Moore Library History Room tour, with bookmarks and brochures placed at community venues. The chapter hosted a provincial meeting with a silent auction, donated \$2,000 to the food bank and \$2,000 to FCSS (Fill a Fridge, Coats for Kids, Santa's Anonymous), and welcomed two new members.

IODE Mount Temple, Banff; Through a Jewelry for Diapers fundraiser, the chapter raised \$1,250 for diapers for the Banff Food Bank and donated \$125 to Snack Pack. In addition, \$125 Violet Downey books were donated to schools, with bookmarks and stickers included with the books.

IODE Willowlodge, Beaverlodge; The chapter provided its history to the local newspaper, and a newspaper article acknowledging IODE's 125th that ran in early February 2025.

Ontario

IODE Angela Bruce, Oakville; The chapter held its Annual General Meeting in February, made donations to the food bank and women's shelter, and shared personal IODE stories. Posters in the Thrift Shop highlighted IODE's mission, and

bookmarks were handed out at the high school bursary awards ceremony. The Goderich introduction video was adapted and posted online.

IODE Bemersyde, Campbellford; The chapter created a Veterans Garden at the Campbellford–Seymour cenotaph and celebrated Founder’s Day with a lunch at a local restaurant. Award-winning books were donated to the library and schools with 125th bookplates and bookmarks, and members knitted stockings and Izzy dolls for Northern communities. Bookmarks were also given with graduation certificates and on a bus trip, and *AnniGrams* plus Jane Cushing’s 125th history video were shared monthly.

IODE Captain Garnet Brackin, Chatham; A tea and meeting were held 10 September 2025, at a lifetime member’s home. Newspaper advertisements were placed in two local papers, 125th banners were put up on Chatham lamp posts, and a \$125 scholarship was awarded to a volunteer student. Seals were used on donated books and certificates, and an advertisement was placed in the program for the musical *Cats* (Theatre Kent).

IODE Captain Hooper, Carleton Place; An event was held 06 November, and 125 articles were donated to Lanark County Interval House (a domestic violence shelter). A bursary, certificate, and bookmark were presented to a Carleton Place High School graduate, and the chapter partnered with Bemersyde Chapter on services to the North.

IODE Confederation, Ridgetown; The chapter’s 98th Anniversary in May featured 125th place settings and centrepieces, and a \$1,000 donation was made to the National 125th Anniversary project fund. An ad in the local paper promoted volunteerism for IODE Awareness Month, and 125 boxes of facial tissues were distributed twice during the year at a local residential home. Bookmarks were handed out at book sales and recruitment tables, 12 members walked in the town’s 150th parade carrying 125 signage, and a member pledge of 125 km per member resulted in over 3,500 km walked (exceeding the 3,375 km goal).

IODE Dr. Elizabeth Bagshaw, Hamilton; On 07 April 2025, the chapter met with the director of Cathedral Cafe and donated 125 granola bars in recognition of the 125th Anniversary. Canadian flags were displayed in the snow on Flag Day (February 15), and an Education Award was presented to a Grade 5 student at Central Public School in Hamilton. The chapter completed a Purse Project (12 purses filled with hygiene items and warm clothing), donated gift cards to St. Matthew’s House in December, and—despite being a small chapter of eight members—continued support for two adopted schools.

IODE Dr. Norman McCormick, Windsor; In honour of the 125th Anniversary, the chapter donated \$125 to nine different community projects and used IODE Canada email updates to keep members informed.

IODE Eldon House, London; The chapter promoted the 125th throughout the entire year rather than focusing on one event. Members collected 278 pairs of socks (goal 125) and donated 134 pairs of gloves and mittens to My Sister’s Place. 125th golf shirts were worn at the Bridge Marathon Luncheon and chapter events, and the Annual Book Sale in October was promoted with 125th posters and bookmarks. Toiletries were donated to drop-in centres, toys were donated to the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre, bookmarks were given with Elementary History Awards, and the chapter helped host the National Annual Meeting.

IODE Errol Egremont, Camlachie; The chapter marked the 125th with events throughout the year, including a 13 February heart health seminar and a 15 February Founder’s Day and 125th Anniversary gathering at the Sarnia Legion and Art Gallery. Members also attended an Inuit carvings exhibition at the Judith & Norman Alix Art Gallery, refurbished the IODE plaque and flagpole at Canatara Park, and donated \$500 to Gallery in the Grove. Four new members joined, including the great-great-granddaughter of founder Margaret Polson Murray, and the chapter established a annual bursary of \$500 per year for three years.

IODE Freelton, Freelton; Two special meetings were dedicated to assembling Personal Care Packages, and 125 packages were distributed to women's shelters in Guelph, Hamilton, and Burlington.

IODE Honourable Malcolm Cameron, Sarnia; During Socktober, the chapter donated 125 pairs of socks to the local food bank and donated 140 children's books (with 125th bookplates) to Literacy Lambton for Christmas hampers. Members signed 341 Christmas cards for Armed Forces overseas and celebrated Founder's Day with two other local chapters, including a luncheon and viewing of Inuit carvings at the Sarnia art gallery. The chapter also donated 125 cupcakes to the food bank.

IODE Kent Regiment, Chatham; An event was held in October, during which 153 personal care and hygiene items were collected (goal 125) and donated to the Food Support Program at St. Paul's Victoria Ave. Church in Chatham.

IODE Laurentian, Ottawa; The chapter held a June fundraising Afternoon Tea with a Silent Auction, raising \$2,000 for the 125th Anniversary Fund and donating \$1,000 to Help our Students (HOST). Bookmarks were placed at each table setting at the Anniversary Tea, and a new Trivia Afternoon benefited Nelson House Women's Shelter. A Garage and Bake Sale supported Banff Ave Community House's homework program, two new members were welcomed, and the chapter continued active community engagement throughout the year.

IODE Lord Dufferin, Orangeville; The chapter held events in March, May and October, and donated 250 geranium seedlings to the Orangeville District Horticulture Society plant sale as well as another 250 seedlings to the Community Living After School Program. The Town of Orangeville proclaimed October 19–25 as IODE Week, and a flag with the IODE logo was purchased jointly with Headwaters Club. Bookmarks were given with geranium orders and at Child ID program events, and monthly ads were placed in the local paper inviting people to meetings.

IODE Maple Leaf, Goderich; The chapter hosted a pizza party in June and a Christmas dinner in December and donated 261 pairs of socks (goal 125). A total of \$2,840 was donated to the Huron County Food Bank (goal \$1,250), and executive officers were featured on Facebook and Instagram during IODE Awareness Week. Nancy Hughes was honoured with a Citizenship award, and the chapter donated \$150 to each of two Goderich elementary schools for Grade 8 graduation, awarded \$1,200 to a Grade 12 student for Social Science, and donated nine books to the Goderich Library summer reading program. Community funding was provided to seven local agencies, clothing/boots/Christmas stockings were sent to a northern nursing clinic, and five new members joined in 2025.

IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia; The chapter held two sock drives and a colouring book/crayon drive. Members knitted Christmas stockings for the Provincial Stocking project for the 125th Anniversary. In March, 125 pairs of socks were contributed to the Provincial project; in December, 250 pairs of socks were collected for a Northern Indigenous community and local shelters. The chapter also donated 125 colouring books and crayons to the local hospital children's ward; set up two display windows in a vacant storefront on main street; flew an IODE logo flag at Petrolia Town Hall; delivered valentines to long-term care residents and signed 250 Christmas cards for Canadian troops. In total, over four dozen Christmas stockings were knitted or crocheted.

IODE Stirling, St. Thomas; Members attended the Val Griffiths Chapter Dorchester punch bowl event for the 125th and performed acts of kindness throughout the year. A Violet Downey award book was presented to the local library, members volunteered for the local Christmas Care campaign, and one member visited a local nursing home with her pet therapy dog. An IODE display was also set up at Canada Day and the seniors' day picnic.

IODE Trillium 2023, Virtual; The chapter ran a year-long event from November 2024 through 2025, with each member aiming to complete 125 km of activity; the total achieved was 7,691 km (an average of 357.5 km per member).

Members signed 500+ Christmas cards at the CNE display in August, shipped 20 lbs of medical equipment to Kashechewan and sent books to an adopted school library in Attawapiskat. Knitted and crocheted Christmas stockings were donated, an October Coffee Club chat was held with the sight-impaired community in Cobourg (20+ participants), and two new members joined.

IODE Val Griffiths, Dorchester; A tea to celebrate the 125th Anniversary was held 29 October 2025, with invitations sent to current and former members and area chapters. The annual fashion show was hosted with an emcee discussing IODE and the 125th, and Valentine cards with chocolates were delivered to seniors in the community. Each September, books were donated to new JK students (with 125th bookplates), and boxes of socks, shampoo, and requested items were sent to the North. The chapter also donated knitted slippers and baby items to a young mothers' group, provided knitted poppies with cards for local veterans, and welcomed four new members.

IODE West Gwillimbury, Bradford-West Gwillimbury; The chapter donated 10 gift cards valued at \$25 each (\$250 total) to Yellow Brick House, contributed \$500 plus \$125 to the 125th Celebration Fund and donated \$250 to York Region Education Services.

IODE White Cloud, Wiarton: The chapter used available 125th promotional items with school awards.

Manitoba

IODE Jon Sigurdson, Winnipeg; The chapter held a spring luncheon with guest speaker Elaine Lochhead on early literacy and organized a Historic Winnipeg/Icelandic tour in October. Members donated 250 children's books to the Day Nursery Centre for inner-city daycares (goal 125), sewed book bags for donation, and held a Trivia Night fundraiser. The annual scholarship awards reception took place, guests were invited to meetings, and members participated in Jon Sigurdsson Day on 17 June as well as attending the Icelandic Festival in Gimli and a Christmas market.

Prince Edward Island

IODE Lady Holland, Charlottetown; Members attended the Fredericton celebration in February and held a June potluck meeting with Lady Holland and Lady's Slipper (with Jane Cushing in attendance). Personal donations were made to the 125th Anniversary Fund, and the chapter provided lunch at the Soup Kitchen for 60 clients. A Founder's Day message was read in February, members carried out acts of kindness (visits, calls, driving, grocery shopping), bookmarks were distributed to the Provincial Library, and a prospective new member attended the September meeting.

Nova Scotia

IODE Cobequid, Springhill; Six members attended Fredericton on 12 February and a 22 October dinner was held with IODE Lord Amherst and IODE Tantrammar. The chapter donated 21 Blessing Bags to Souls Harbour Rescue Mission in Amherst, and Mayor Rod Gilroy signed a Proclamation of IODE Awareness Month on 19 October. A Founder's Day ceremony was held 05 February at St. Andrews-Wesley United Church, two bursaries were awarded at Springhill High School graduation, items were donated to the local food bank, and a new member created an achievements binder.

IODE Lord Amherst, Amherst; On 22 October, the chapter held a dinner with three Cumberland County chapters and marked its own 115th Anniversary. The Municipality of Cumberland proclaimed October as IODE Awareness Month, and members focused on positive community interactions—helping seniors and donating books and magazines. Bookmarks were placed in Blessings Bags for a homeless

support centre and distributed at the high school, Four Fathers Library, Free Neighbourhood Libraries, and the Christmas Craft Fair, with buttons placed on 22 October treat bags. A local Christmas Craft Fair fundraiser was held, and Ruth Oulton (former president and PEC member) was made an honorary member.

IODE Mary Lawson, Dartmouth; The chapter distributed 12 Provincial Blessing Bags via Margaret's House soup kitchen, and displayed posters at an assisted high school and local churches (arranged by the president's daughter, Jenna Tingley-Forsyth). Member Betty Pitt's 100th birthday was celebrated, bed socks were knitted for donation, and donations were made to Panther Pantry and the local food bank. Anniversary bookmarks were distributed at the June Yard/Plant sale and given with a High School bursary certificate and at assisted schools; the chapter also hosted a birthday for the "Among Friends" mental health group and delivered Halloween treats to the NS Hospital Laurel Unit. A new member, Kinza Allen, was welcomed in June, and a Primary Life Membership was awarded to Sharon Greenough in October.

New Brunswick

IODE Atlantic, St. Stephen; The chapter held events throughout the year, especially in February (Founder's Day) and October, and created a community storefront display. The chapter partnered with the "Village to Raise a Reader" library initiative, donated bookmarks and books to a school, shelter, and volunteer centre, and provided a \$500 scholarship for St. Stephen High School. A Milltown Activities Group lamp post was decorated (a Friendly IODE Witch with a goodie bag), bookmarks were placed in the Little Lending Library and assisted school library, and members handed out Acts of Kindness cards. Reading Challenge books, awards and certificates were given to the assisted school, and the chapter presented a \$1,000 bursary, a \$500 scholarship, and five \$100 awards at St. Stephen High School. Friends of IODE certificates were presented, and food and funding were provided to the local Volunteer Center/Food Pantry.

IODE Canada 150, Virtual; A donation to the 125th Anniversary Fund was made on behalf of IODE Katie Hazen MacKay's 50th Anniversary, and the pictorial chapter poster was updated for 125 years. The poster was displayed at East Branch Library, Loch Lomond Villa and St. Mary and St. Bart Church throughout October, and \$100 was donated to the 125th Celebration Fund.

IODE Doris E. Sullivan, Fredericton; On 12 February 2025, the chapter held a 125th Anniversary meeting at Fredericton City Hall (the site of the first IODE meeting in 1900), with members from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island attending in person and others across Canada joining by Zoom. Members made 127 seasonal and holiday dining bibs for Meals on Wheels, presented eight Friends of IODE cards, and donated 200 pads and pens to Meals on Wheels for Christmas. An extra \$500 bursary was awarded, and weekly Facebook posts highlighted the chapter's 40th Anniversary and activities. A fifth \$500 bursary was presented to a high school graduate, year-round support continued for assisted schools (classroom items, meals, field trips), and books were donated to Fredericton Adult Literacy. The chapter celebrated its 40th anniversary by recognizing four charter members, awarded a Life Membership, and welcomed two new members.

IODE Governor Carleton, Fredericton; The chapter collected \$175 for the 125th Celebration Fund and made two \$125 donations to a member whose home was lost in a fire. Over 125 knitted items were donated to a new school in need, and members wore 125th buttons and T-shirts while displaying a magnetic IODE logo on a member's car. The February meeting focused on IODE New Brunswick's beginnings and 125-year history, an IODE Violet Downey Award book was presented in the fall and one new member was recruited.

IODE Heritage, St. Stephen; The chapter attended the 12 February

provincial meeting at Fredericton City Hall and held a May “What’s in your purse” fundraiser, contributing \$250 to the 125th Celebration Fund. A total of \$3,715 worth of hats, mittens, scarves, and coats was collected for IODE Warm Hugs, with items donated to assisted schools, the Volunteer Centre, Neighbourhood Works, and the Family Resource Centre. Soda pop cake bags were prepared for Food Bank clients, and a window display at Briggs Plumbing featured four information panels for 10 days before Halloween. The chapter donated Christmas cash to the Neighbourhood Works shelter, provided toilet tissue and toiletries to the Volunteer Centre, and placed stickers, seals, and bookmarks on books donated to schools and daycares. The annual Armed Forces Christmas Cards drive sent 1,100 cards to troops, official thanks was received from the Chief of Staff (Operation UNIFIER), and five new members joined in March, May, and November.

IODE Katie Hazen Mackay, Saint John; At the January 2025 AGM, the chapter celebrated its 50th Anniversary and IODE’s 125th with a decorated cake. Treat bags were donated to a nursing home, 100+ knitted hats were donated to the Hospital Foundation, and \$125 was donated to the 125th Celebration Fund, with Facebook posts promoting the anniversary. Members attended the February provincial meeting at Fredericton City Chambers and observed Founder’s Day at church with the Canada 150 Chapter. Bookmarks were given to an assisted school, and in October the chapter donated over 125 personal care items to Kennebec Manor. In December, 50 comfort kits (over 125 items) were donated to the local food bank.

IODE Shepody, Dorchester; The chapter marked the 125th at Founder’s Day, the June Potluck and the December chapter anniversary luncheon, and completed 125 Acts of Kindness. Funds were donated to the local school and library, IODE pamphlets were placed at the post office, and IODE T-shirts and information were displayed at the Sackville Fall Fair. Bookmarks were placed in school prize books and in library Summer Reading Program books, paper flags were placed on veterans’ graves at three cemeteries (with Cubs and Beavers), and two new members were welcomed through community activities.

Primary Chapters under National Jurisdiction – Helen Danby, Liaison

Note: All volunteer hours and figures submitted are included in department reports. The chapter members working together contribute to amazing results.

Manitoba, IODE Jon Sigurdsson, Winnipeg

During 2025, IODE Jon Sigurdsson remained highly engaged in education, citizenship, community service, and membership development, while actively participating in the celebration of IODE Canada’s 125th Anniversary.

IODE 125th Anniversary activities included a spring luncheon featuring a guest speaker on early literacy, a historic Winnipeg–Icelandic guided tour, and a Children’s Book Drive that exceeded its goal by donating 250 books, each presented in handmade fabric bags, to inner-city daycare families. The chapter also hosted public fundraising events, including a trivia night and craft sales, which supported scholarships and community donations.

Citizenship and cultural engagement continued to be a cornerstone of chapter work. Members participated in VJ Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies and partnered with Icelandic cultural organizations to host the annual Jon Sigurdsson Day commemoration in Winnipeg, strengthening ties between the Icelandic and Canadian communities.

Education remained a primary focus, with fourteen \$1,000 scholarships awarded to Manitoba post-secondary students at a formal ceremony attended by students, families, and members. The event highlighted student achievements through artistic and musical performances.

Despite the loss of two members during the year, the chapter welcomed four new members, bringing total membership to 33. Ongoing recruitment and visibility efforts included luncheons, festival participation, community events, and targeted communications through social media and partner organizations.

Overall, IODE Jon Sigurdsson is well recognized for its scholarships, citizenship awards, cultural leadership, and meaningful contributions to the community.

Quebec, IODE HMS Victory, Montreal

The community service and communications activities reported by this chapter during 2025, included assistance to their adopted school, citizenship initiatives, and local outreach.

The chapter supported the adopted school in Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation, Labrador (42 students across three combined Grade 3 classes). Items sent to the class included socks, toques, mittens, and slippers for each child, along with calendars and stickers.

A citizenship initiative was a donation to the Last Post Fund and participation in a commemoration service (June 2025) honouring Mr. Roy Motton for volunteer service within the Montreal West community. A Citizenship Award was presented during the 125th Anniversary Tea (November 2025) and members also participated in the November Remembrance Ceremony, including laying a wreath.

The chapter continued to reach out to their community and partnered with other organizations in the following ways:

- Promoted activities through monthly articles in the *Montreal West Informer* and through Facebook communications.
- Posted local area posters highlighting events and delivered digital presentations explaining who IODE is and what we do.
- Networked with local organizations (Rotary, Library, small businesses, churches) and cross-promoted projects.
- Produced and distributed tri-fold brochures for the 125th Celebration and used national 125th promotional materials.
- Shared a 125th Anniversary presentation tracing the history of IODE in Quebec.
- Acknowledged partner participation on Facebook and in the local newspaper.

The chapter has seven diligent members who are engaged through regular conversations as to their various areas to see how things are moving along, offering help where needed, and encouraging new ideas for their initiatives.

Yukon, IODE Dawson

IODE Dawson continues to play an important role in supporting the well-being of Dawson City residents through charitable service, educational support, and community-based fundraising. All funds raised by the chapter are reinvested locally, ensuring a direct and meaningful impact within the community.

A cornerstone of IODE Dawson's work is its annual **Senior Christmas Parcel Program**. Each year during the holiday season, volunteers prepare and deliver Christmas parcels to more than 200 local seniors. These parcels include baked goods and small gifts, or alternatively, a charitable donation made in a senior's name. The program is supported by community cookie donations, volunteer coordination, and organized pick-ups and deliveries, helping to ensure seniors feel remembered and supported during the holidays.

Throughout the year, the chapter also provides financial assistance to individuals and families facing unexpected hardship, including support related to emergencies, rebuilding efforts, and participation in educational or school-related activities.

IODE Dawson remains committed to education through its annual \$750 scholarship, awarded to a Dawson resident pursuing post-secondary education or training in any field of study. The scholarship is open to a wide range of programs and serves as an important investment in the future of the community by supporting lifelong learning and skills development.

The chapter's primary fundraising initiative is the **Ice Pool**, an historic Dawson City tradition dating back to 1898. The Ice Pool is a lottery in which participants guess the moment a tripod placed on the Yukon River moves during spring break-up, stopping a clock. Tickets are sold both online and through local businesses, with half of the proceeds awarded as prize money.

In 2025, the Ice Pool generated a record-breaking prize pot of over \$4,500, reflecting strong community participation and support. Proceeds from the Ice Pool are distributed to local organizations and programs, including the Women's Shelter, Learning Disabilities Association of Yukon (LDAY) programming, the Dawson Humane Society, and other community initiatives as needs arise.

The success of IODE Dawson's activities is made possible through strong partnerships with local businesses, organizations, and volunteers. These partners contribute venues, materials, technical expertise, and logistical support, helping to sustain long-standing traditions and ensure efficient delivery of community programs.

Archivist – Bonnie Rees

IODE Canada receives a variety of inquiries every year. They come via conventional means as well as several social media channels. These often pertained to people seeking information on a relative who was a member. Some asked about a past project in which a chapter was involved. Information was also sought on IODE memorabilia, such as chinaware, jewelry and old documents or newspaper articles. Often there was an exchange of information that was most interesting. There were amazing stories in IODE history.

Often, assistance was provided by primary and provincial chapters who may have anecdotal information as a starting point into such enquiries. They have contacted local libraries and museums to help in our searches. Their help is most appreciated.

The resources of IODE Ontario were particularly helpful as they have amassed an amazing volume of information on members in Ontario since the beginnings of IODE, as well as a comprehensive list of projects and activities of chapters over the years, all compiled by Helen Danby. As this information was digital, it was much easier to search. Helen was the IODE Canada Second Vice-President as well as Education Officer and was a Past Provincial President of IODE Ontario. Her research continued to grow. Helen does extensive research on any topic presented to her, doing "deep dives" into on-line resources. Her assistance was invaluable in locating information about Ontario activities.

Among the several inquiries that came into the office during the year were the following:

- IODE Lady Tweedsmuir, Toronto 1935 – 1999: a woman inquired about her mother's membership in this chapter.
- Antique dealer with an historical document he thought IODE might be interested in having. Although the document is in a frame with IODE identifiers, the document itself was related to Belgian independence in 1839.
- IODE James Henderson, LLD, Regina 1914 – 1952: woman offering various items from her mother who had been a member - stationery, minutes, *Echoes*, small IODE award cup, items with IODE crests such as a bud vase, wine glass, small, fluted plate.
- IODE Sanitorium in Windsor, Ontario: requested information about this hospital and others in Essex County with an IODE affiliation

- Citizenship Court receptions, IODE Welcome Certificates and courses taught by IODE members in English as a Second Language: an inquiry from someone in Sudbury, Ontario
- BC chapters – IODE Cowichan 1918 – 1994; IODE Duncan Dogwood 1932 – 1935; IODE Cowichan Dogwoods 1994 - 2015: a worker at the Vancouver Public Library was digitizing photos for a database and inquired about the names of IODE members in several photos.
- IODE Frontenac, Ontario 1906 – 1922 or IODE Frontenac, Alberta 1927 - ? : inquired about a small, metal medallion given by a Frontenac Chapter for the Highest Marks in History in 1931
- Women on the March: a 1958 NFB film about women’s suffragette movement with a short snippet on IODE involvement – forwarded by a woman who learned about IODE from the film.

Although the National Office has downsized, the following records continue to be archived: a complete set of *Echoes*, books on all of the IODE War Memorial Scholarship recipients’ biographies, the Minutes of the Board of Directors and those of the National Officers, Minutes of the National Advisory Committee (NAC) (and its predecessor the National Executive Committee NEC), the National Yearbooks (which include the National Annual Reports and the National Annual Meeting Minutes), some of the Annual Reports from the Provinces, some chapter histories, and a variety of miscellaneous information. Early documents were preserved on microfilm and microfiche. These documents were available for study in-house. Digitizing these documents was ongoing. Chapters were strongly encouraged to also digitize their own records.

It was always informative to dig into the records to find interesting bits of IODE history. The Archivist tried to find informative anecdotes for reporting to the NAC. Such reports were often new information for Councillors; sometimes it jogged the memories of long-standing Councillors.

Chapters were encouraged to update their histories or begin a chapter history. If the latter was the case, it was probably better to begin now and work backward. The accomplishments of chapter members over the years deserve to be preserved. Be proud of your chapter. Update/write its history.

Labrador Adopt-a-Class – Aileen Reid Co-Ordinator \$19,449

In 2025, chapters from six provinces supported 804 students throughout Labrador and Northern Ontario in 52 classrooms, and, in addition, four chapters supported four entire schools. Materials and donations to these classrooms totaled \$16,188 and shipping costs were \$3,261.

Throughout the school year, adopted classes in Labrador and Northern Ontario received a mixture of goods. Unfortunately, Canada Post did not offer the Tuesday free shipping during the month of October as it has in other years, making costs increase for chapters and individuals.

Chapters reported sending warm clothing, including socks, toques, balaclavas, scarves, slippers, waterproof mittens and gloves, thermal wear, flannel pajama pants, and many hand-knit accessories for winter.

Books from First Book Canada were purchased and sent directly to the schools. Other wonderful books in English, French and Indigenous languages made their way into classrooms. Many copies of the IODE Violet Downey Book Award winning book, *The Outsmarters*, as well as the winner of the IODE Jean Throop Book Award, *The Scooter Twins*, were sent to schools. A great variety of other books were sent, including board books, story books, novels, graphic novels, pop-up books, and nonfiction books. IODE book plates and bookmarks were included. Several chapters provided magazine subscriptions for resources such as *National Geographic* and *Chickadee*.

IODE members made sure to include fun treats in packages for the students

and teachers. Lego, stickers, googly eyes, seasonal snacks and decorations, water bottles, play equipment, Canada Day buttons, shoes, toys, puzzles, magnetic tiles, board games, bouncy balls, Slinkys, healthy snacks, board games and carefully packed, ten-pound bags of apples were among the thoughtful items in the parcels. Many classes were sent handmade Christmas stockings stuffed with items such as Izzy dolls, finger puppets, toys and knitted items that were made by chapter members to celebrate IODE 125th Anniversary.

Students were encouraged to use their imaginations and creativity with paints, paint brushes, all types of papers for art projects that were sent. There were crayons, markers, notebooks, sketch pads, pens, coloured pens, gel pens, brushes, markers, chalk, and pencils and pencil cases delivered to our adopted classes. There were sets of Christmas cards and blank postcards for the students to be creative with and later send in the mail. One chapter exchanged pen pal letters to their Grade 1 class. The teachers and students loved receiving craft-kits, wooden craft sticks, bubbles, modelling clay, glue sticks, tape, pipe cleaners, beads, and wire.

Teachers received white boards with markers, globes, maps of Canada, floor mats that made up a racing track with cars, calendars, wooden pattern blocks, headsets, alphabet banners, and beanbag chairs and wobble chairs. Some teachers asked for seeds and gardening tools, others asked for indoor seed-starter kits, while other chapters sent gift cards.

In Northern Ontario, schools had chapters and/or individuals who supported them on a yearly basis. Chapters have embraced the "Ask, Listen, Act" policy and have given school supplies and requested items to schools in both Northern Ontario and Labrador and Newfoundland. Chapters kept in touch with teachers with email, text messages, zoom meetings, phone calls, and through social media. Parcels were packed with handwritten letters and cards for teachers and individual students. Teachers have responded by sending pictures of their students holding or wearing items sent to them from IODE chapters.

The Adopted Schools committee met once in 2025 to discuss how to develop strategies to increase classroom adoptions, the need to connect with chapters who have adopted classrooms to provide valuable opportunities to assess progress, share best practice and address ongoing challenges.

Additional classrooms and schools in Labrador and Northern Ontario were looking for IODE assistance at year end. Please consider supporting a classroom.

IODE Violet Downey Book Award – Liz Hancock, Chair

The IODE Violet Downey Book Award Selection Committee reviewed 124 books published in 2024 and submitted by 29 publishers for consideration for this annual award. This \$5,000 award is for an English-language book, written by a Canadian, suitable for children 13 years of age and younger and containing a minimum of 500 words.

The 12-member selection committee was comprised of ten IODE members: Chris Bateman, Jane Cushing, Karen Dalton, Gail Delaney, Liz Hancock, Margaret Meathrel, Hazel MacLeod, E. Anne Mason, Carol McCall, and Catherine Moore. Martha Scott, retired children's librarian, and Jeffrey Canton, children's literature specialist, and columnist for the Globe and Mail continued to provide the committee with invaluable experience and information.

Committee members communicated via email and met via zoom to evaluate the submitted books. After careful consideration, the committee agreed upon a shortlist of five books and subsequently, the winner. The books on the Shortlist were *A Galaxy of Whales*, *Iggy Included*, *Plague Thieves*, *The Outsmarters*, and *Tig*. The committee was challenged to choose a winner from these outstanding examples of children's literature.

The winner was announced at IODE Canada's 125th National Annual Meeting, held in London, ON, on Friday, 30 May 2025. The winning book was *The*

Outsmarters by Deborah Ellis published by Groundwood Books / House of Anansi Press.

Suspended from school and prone to rages, twelve-year-old Kate finds her own way to get on with her life, despite the messed-up adults around her. Her gran, is stubborn and aloof, not unlike Kate herself who's been expelled for "behavioral issues." Kate dreams that one day her mother will return for her. When that happens, they'll need money, so Kate sets out to make some. Gran nixes her idea to sell psychiatric advice, so Kate decides to open a philosophy booth to provide answers to life's big and small questions. She soon learns that adults have plenty of problems and secrets of their own. Kate decides to take matters into her own hands and discovers that to get what she wants, she may have to reach out to some unexpected people, and find a way to lay down her own anger.

Deborah Ellis and her publicist Kirsten Brassard were able to join the National Annual Meeting by Zoom. Deborah thanked IODE Canada for the honour bestowed upon her.

For members in attendance, books were available for sale at the end of the meeting.

We encouraged members and chapters to purchase a copy of this book for their family members and the school programs they support. Deborah signed bookplates to insert in the books and the office had stickers to attach to the front.

An IODE Canada *Express News* was distributed to announce the winner and information about the book was added to both the IODE Canada website and on social media.

National Life Membership – Catherine Moore, Chair

The highest honour in IODE is a National Life Membership. It celebrates that member who has given valuable and continuing service to IODE Canada with her time, talents, wisdom and vision over numerous years. This member has displayed great leadership, confidence and dedication to work within a team to make important decisions.

Members of the National Advisory Committee (NAC) sent individual letters of recommendation for a National Life Membership, three in all for a proposed nominee, to the Chair of the National Life Membership Committee, Catherine Moore. Subsequently, four valued members received National Life Memberships at the 2025 National Annual Meeting.

Sandra McCormick Citation

Today, we have the pleasure of recognizing Sandra McCormick's ongoing contributions to IODE across Canada for 23 years with a National Life Membership.

Since joining in 2002, Sandra has been a very active member of IODE Lady Slipper, Charlottetown, PE, serving in every office and currently serves as her chapter's very effective President. As current Provincial President Gail MacLean wrote: 'During my term as Provincial President from 2013 - 2016, Sandra served as Vice-President and Membership Officer. She was a valuable assistant to me and took on any task asked of her. She continues to be very active in promoting National IODE initiatives.'

Sandra served as Provincial President from 2016 - 2019. In 2017, to celebrate Canada 150, Sandra organized a birthday social at which current and past members of IODE were invited to celebrate our shared history. She and Janice Ellis planted a flower bed this year as part of, Charlottetown's 'Community in Bloom' which has seen IODE recognized again in the community. Sandra currently serves as Provincial Citizenship Officer and has been a National Councillor for thirteen years. Recently, Sandra has not been as active in attending NAC meetings however she reads all National correspondence and keeps Provincial and her Primary chapter up

to date on all National initiatives encouraging members to take action. She was a valuable member of the organizing committee for the 2024 National Annual Meeting held in Charlottetown where her organizational talent was evident.

Sandra has been an outstanding member of IODE at all three levels and we were honoured to recognize her with a National Life Membership.

Unfortunately, our next three members who were to receive a National life Membership at the National Annual Meeting were unable to be with us. Karen Beauregard, Janice Ellis and Sharon Smith received their National Life Memberships at the IODE Prince Edward Island Provincial Annual Meeting.

Karen Beauregard Citation

We were delighted to recognize a longstanding member of 45 years who continues a career of exemplary service to IODE, Karen Beauregard.

In 1980, IODE Lady Holland, Charlottetown, PE, was fortunate to welcome new member, Karen Beauregard. She currently serves as chapter Education Officer and has held many offices including President. She can be counted on to assist her family-like chapter in any way and brings a wonderful sense of humor to meetings.

Karen was Provincial President of IODE Prince Edward Island from 2010 to 2013 and has held numerous offices at this level. The Provincial Chapter established a bursary at the University of PEI in the 1990's. Karen sat on the selection committee for many years to choose the successful applicant in her role as President and prior to that, as Provincial Education Officer. Karen was a member of the National Education Committee and brought forward all information concerning new initiatives and updates from National. Karen continues to promote IODE and IODE Canada and has put IODE on Facebook in PEI to showcase our projects, fundraisers and invite women to join. She currently serves as Provincial Education Officer.

Karen has been on the National Advisory Committee for 30 years and played a significant role at the National Annual Meeting held in Charlottetown in 1993 as registrar for this meeting which had 300 members attending from across Canada. In her professional life, Karen owned a quilting store and put her skills to work leading us in sewing 300 jewelry bags as gifts for the members attending the 2007 meeting and in sewing 110 luggage tags for the NAM 2024 meeting. Karen was also on the planning committees for the NAM's held in 1986 and 1993. Karen has travelled to attend National Annual meetings and Provincial meetings held in the maritime provinces.

Karen is an outstanding member of IODE and continues to promote IODE at all three levels. It was a great pleasure to present Karen Beauregard with a well-deserved IODE National Life Membership.

Janice Ellis Citation

Janice is a valued member of IODE Lady Holland, Charlottetown, PE, joining as a charter member in October 1974. She actively participated at the primary chapter level, holding every office, including President. Her commitment led her to the Provincial Chapter. Janice's organizational skills were soon recognized and she held many offices at this level. She excelled as Provincial Secretary. As Gail MacLean reports, 'during my terms as Provincial President from 1995 to 1998 and 2013 to 2016, Janice's support was invaluable. She was always willing to take on any task asked of her. In my current role as Provincial President, Janice is serving as Communications Officer and Corresponding Secretary. For the past 10 years, Janice has taken on the responsibility of typing and compiling the provincial annual report, a large commitment of time. When connecting with other people and organizations on behalf of IODE, Janice is held in high regard and was recognized for this commitment with a Provincial Life Membership in 2014.'

Janice is a committed IODE leader, serving with professionalism in every capacity. She has stepped forward and has continued to serve as a National Councillor for 40 years. Her professional career as a Registered Nurse has benefited those organizations IODE has supported, especially those involving women and children. She is a member of the War Memorial Committee, attends NAC meetings and reports all pertinent information to the Provincial Chapter. She supports National projects and shows her desire to promote IODE at all levels of the organization. An example of her leadership was when students at an Ontario high school wanted to donate oak seedlings to PEI after tropical storm Fiona, which hit the Island on September 22, 2022. This storm caused widespread damage to the Island's coastline and forests. As PEI regulations did not allow seedlings from another province to be planted there, Janice investigated and found alternative native seedlings from a local nursery and shared this information with the students. These donated trees were then planted and were a learning experience for PEI students. Janice has been and continues to be, a stellar member of 51 years at all levels of IODE whom we honoured with this National Life Membership.

Sharon C. Smith Citation

It is a sincere privilege to introduce Sharon C. Smith as she receives a well-deserved National Life Membership.

IODE Prince Edward Island Provincial President Gail MacLean has noted, 'she is a very valued member of IODE for 50 years. She is a committed member of her primary chapter IODE Lady Holland, Charlottetown, PE, and has served in many offices over her long membership. During my tenure as Provincial President from 2016 to 2019, Sharon served as Provincial Treasurer at which time I worked very closely with Sharon. Her knowledge of the processes and procedures of finances as they pertain to IODE as a National organization, was invaluable and she kept me well informed of any pertinent information from IODE Canada. She has been a National Councillor for 35 years and is on the Finance Committee. Sharon continues to this day as Provincial Treasurer and is always available as a valuable resource to my chapter, IODE Lady's Slipper, Charlottetown. For her dedication to IODE, it was my honour to present Sharon with a Provincial Life Membership in 2016.'

In 2016, Sharon also brought forward the project, 'No Stone Left Alone' as a foundation she felt IODE could support. Since this time, IODE members regularly attend these services and help involved students find the graves of veterans where they can place their poppies in remembrance. Prince Edward Island members find these services to be very moving as IODE was originally founded to help soldiers fighting in the Boer War.

Sharon was very active on the committee for the 2024 National Annual Meeting held in PEI and very capably served as the NAM Registrar. She also served on the committees for the three National Annual Meetings held prior to 2024. She was very proud to be the Standard Bearer for NAM in 2024 and 2019.

Gail noted the ongoing commitment as she continues to serve IODE at all levels with expertise and dedication. It was a distinct privilege to recognize Sharon Smith.

100th Anniversary Grant Program – Carole Yorke, Chair

In 2000, IODE Canada's 100th Anniversary gift to Canada was an ongoing grant program open to an individual or group specializing in developing and implementing ways to prevent child abuse and neglect. This award is given in alternate years.

The Selection Committee met via Zoom on 10 January 2025 to choose the winner of the 2025 IODE 100th Anniversary Grant. On IODE Founder's Day, 13 February 2025, it was announced by Express News that the recipient of the 2025 IODE 100th Anniversary Grant of \$50,000 was Souls Harbour Rescue Mission, Halifax, Nova Scotia for their Souls Harbour Family Stability Through Housing and Support

Program. This program is a transformative initiative aimed at alleviating child abuse and neglect by addressing its root causes, such as housing instability, lack of employment opportunities, parental stress and insufficient support systems. This holistic approach meets immediate needs while also paving the way for long-term stability, particularly for low-income women, single mothers, and women escaping domestic violence. The Family Stability Through Housing Support Program is a lifeline for families in crisis. By combining stable housing with family centred support, the program addresses challenges that perpetuate child abuse and neglect. Every life skill taught, every counselling session held, and every resource shared brings families closer to a brighter future. The Women’s Home provided a safe, structured, and restorative environment for women recovering from gender-based violence and housing instability. The program supported more than fifteen women and seventeen children through a structured residential environment combined with wraparound supports, including individualized case management, parenting support, mental health referrals, therapy accompaniment, transportation assistance, and access to community-based health, education, wellness, and social services.

Thank you to Anne Lawless, Joan Stewart and Paula Schofield from IODE Nova Scotia for presenting the cheque for \$50,000 to Souls Harbour Rescue Mission in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

An article about the program was written for the Spring Issue of *Echoes* providing members with information about this life changing initiative. The evaluation of the program is also helping to build a body of evidence that will strengthen family wellness programs across Nova Scotia and beyond. They are developing a conference paper based on the program’s impact and findings. The paper, titled “Housing as Healing: A Practice-Based Case from a Rural Transitional Women’s Home,” has been accepted for presentation at the 2026 Canadian Sociological Association (CSA) Annual Conference taking place 10-13 June 2026. IODE requires professional evaluation of all programs awarded the grant to help determine best practices. Many of the award-winning programs have presented to National and International Conferences. The sharing of this information means that many are assisted beyond the winning program which brings a much broader impact. Souls Harbour Rescue Mission was very grateful for the financial support provided by IODE for this new initiative.

Labrador Bursary – Jane Cushing, Chair

Two meetings were held in 2025. In April the committee reviewed student applications for bursaries and renewals. In October, the Terms of Reference and financial standing were reviewed. The committee decided to continue awarding bursaries and renewals on the same basis for 2026-2027.

NEW APPLICATIONS: \$8,000

The committee reviewed 18 and approved 16 new applications for the academic year 2025-2026; each was awarded a bursary of \$500, totaling \$8,000, contingent upon confirmation of registration for the fall term 2025-2026 being received by the National Office.

Barney, Abigail	Paramedic	College of the North Atlantic	\$500
Bridel, Ava	Massage Therapist	Academy Canada	\$500
Butt, Layla	Education	Memorial University	\$500
Butt, Mackenzie	Esthetics and Spa Management	Academy Canada	\$500
Curl, Bradley	Heavy Equipment Mechanic	College of the North Atlantic	\$500
Ernst, Amber	Science	Dalhousie	\$500
Flynn, Cole	Psychology	Memorial University	\$500
Flynn, Julian	Nursing	Memorial University	\$500 plus \$500 HD*
Hudson, Luke	Science	Memorial University	\$500
Hudson, Owen	Electrician	College of the North Atlantic	\$500
Jones, Finlay	Engineering	Memorial University	\$500
Linstead, Abigail	Hair Stylist	Academy Canada	\$500
Normore, Leah	Medical Assistant Lab	College of the North Atlantic	\$500
Pike-Myler, Andrew	Software Development	College of the North Atlantic	\$500
Roque, Christian	Education	Memorial University	\$500
Suley, Emma	Early Childhood Ed.	College of the North Atlantic	\$500

***IODE Helen Dick Memorial Labrador Bursary Award – Health and Wellness**

Area of Study

A bequest of \$25,000 was received from the Estate of Past National President Helen Dick in 2023. Terms of Reference were drawn up in October 2023 and as Helen was a nurse, a special bursary for a student studying in the medical field was created to start in 2024.

RENEWAL APPLICATIONS \$3,000

The committee reviewed seven renewal applications, six of which were awarded bursaries for the school term 2025-2026 – 6 @ \$500 for a total of \$3,000, once Head Office received confirmation of registration for the term.

Griffin, Alicia	B A English	Dalhousie University	\$500
Martin, Noah	Resource Management	Memorial University	\$500 plus \$500SD*
Normore, Noah	Mechanical Engineering Technology	College of the North Atlantic	\$500
Pike, Katie	Biology and Psychology	Memorial University	\$500

Ryland, Logan	Nautical Science	Marine Institute	\$500
Stevens, Cloe	Engineering	Memorial University	\$500

***IODE Sally Douglas Labrador Bursary Award:**

Renewal students were considered for the additional honour of receiving the IODE Sally Douglas Labrador Bursary Award.

Some students were unable to attend the institution of their choice in 2025 and their bursaries were deferred until they could register. Several students sent notes or emails thanking IODE for their bursaries. Letters were received from College of the North Atlantic and Memorial University thanking IODE for supporting their students and encouraging students' post secondary goals.

Labrabook: \$900

Each of the six renewal bursary recipients who were continuing regular post-secondary study were also awarded a \$150 textbook allowance from the Labrabook Fund, as approved by the Education Committee.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL TREASURER
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025
Carol McCall, National Treasurer

The Report of the Treasurer of The National Chapter of Canada IODE (IODE Canada) includes the reports of the Finance Committee, the Investment Committee, the IODE Canada Budget for 2026 and the Audited Financial Statements of IODE Canada prepared by Hilborn LLP, Chartered Accountants, for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee oversees IODE Canada’s financial reporting process on behalf of the members. The Committee met twice to discuss financial matters including the proposed Budget of the General Fund for 2026 and the Endowment Fund. The Finance Committee reviewed with the auditor, Liana Bell, CPA, CA, Partner, Hilborn LLP, the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025. The Report of the Auditor is printed in its entirety in this Annual Report.

Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)

On the advice of our Auditor, IODE has adopted the requirements of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountant’s Handbook and has adopted Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations. This accounting framework is in accordance with GAAP.

Investment Committee Report

The capital funds of The National Chapter of Canada IODE are administered by this committee. A professional consultant, Peter Vondracek, Investment Advisor, CIBC Wood Gundy, assists this committee.

An Investment Policy guides the decisions regarding the investment portfolio. It specifies that the portfolio is to be managed with a low level of risk both to maintain capital and to provide reliable income over the course of the year.

Funds held in the IODE Canada portfolio are included in the Balance Sheet prepared by the auditors. As of 31 December 2025, the fair market value of the portfolio was:

IODE Canada Investments	\$ 1,757,536
IODE Canada Cash & Other Assets	\$ 97,766
Total Portfolio	\$ 1,855,302

Financial information of jurisdictional chapters (provincial and primary) for 2025 is not yet collated.

Unaudited data for 2024 were:

Cash & Investments	\$ 2,220,159
Revenue for 2024	1,801,260
Expenditures for 2024	1,466,366

The net worth of IODE Canada and its jurisdictional chapters exceeded \$4,075,461.

THE NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA IODE BUDGET FOR 2026

IODE CANADA

BUDGET GENERAL FUND 2026

	1275 members 2025 Budget	1200 2026 Budget
INCOME		
Membership Fees (\$45)	57,375	54,000
NAC Fees (\$30)	2,700	2,400
Badges & Supplies	2,500	2,500
Insurance Recovery (\$8 per member 2024)	10,200	9,600
Donations from individuals	1000	500
Levy for Administration (\$5 per member)	6,375	6,000
Annual Meeting	0	0
Together for Tomorrow	7,000	4,000
TOTAL INCOME - GENERAL FUND	87,150	79,000
EXPENSES		
Staff - Salaries	79,000	82,160
Staff - Benefits (EI, CPP & Group Ben)	7,000	7,280
Rent	22,200	22,740
Badges & Supplies	1,000	1,000
Office - Telephone/Internet	2,950	1,950
Office - Postage and Shipping	3,000	2,275
Office - Printing/Photocopier costs	1,600	1,600
Office - all other (incl equip, supplies, etc) **	8,500	7,200
Tax payable (HST)	12,500	10,500
Tax rebate	-8,660	-7,200
Insurance	12,500	12,500
<i>Echoes</i> (Design, Print & Distribution)	12,000	12,000
Professional Fees - Accounting	16,000	18,000
Professional Fees - Legal	500	0
Professional Services - IT Contract **	2,400	2,800
Website & other PR related	1,200	1,200
Miscellaneous Expense	100	100
Memberships & Subscriptions	120	120
Bank & Credit Card Charges	500	800
Officers' Travel & Miscellaneous Expenses	15,000	15,000
Officers' Donations to Travel Expenses	-15,000	-15,000
President's Travel to Provincial Chapters	7,500	7,500
Annual Meeting (NAM)	0	0
Annual Meeting (NAM) Travel Subsidy	0	0
TOTAL EXPENSES - GENERAL FUND	181,910	184,525
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-94,760	-105,525
MONIES REQUIRED TO OFFSET 2023 DEFICIT		
Budgeted Income from the Endowment Fund	15,000	15,000
Transfer from Endowment Capital Account	29,800	0
Recovery for Administration of Funds	50,000	90,000
BALANCE	40	-525

**THE NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA IODE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025**

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of The National Chapter of Canada IODE

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The National Chapter of Canada IODE (the "Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2025, and the statements of revenues, expenses and fund balances and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at December 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many similar organizations, the Organization has receipts from chapters for fees, contributions and donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts reported by chapters or otherwise recorded in the accounts of the Organization. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether, as at and for the year ended December 31, 2025, any adjustments might be necessary to revenues, excess of revenues over expenses reported in the statement of revenues, expenses and fund balances, and assets and fund balances reported in the statements of financial position. This matter also caused us to qualify our audit opinion on the final financial statements as at and for the year ended December 31, 2024.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the ability of the Organization to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the financial reporting process of the Organization.

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control of the Organization.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Organization to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.



Toronto, Ontario
March 31, 2026

Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

THE NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA IODE

Statement of Financial Position

December 31	2025 \$	2024 \$
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	87,910	90,557
Receivable from chapters	4,520	5,330
GST/PST rebate	4,463	3,066
Prepaid expenses	873	873
	<u>97,766</u>	<u>99,826</u>
Long-term assets		
Investments (note 3)	1,757,536	1,488,530
	<u>1,855,302</u>	<u>1,588,356</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	25,923	17,873
Scholarships payable	27,500	22,500
	<u>53,423</u>	<u>40,373</u>
FUND BALANCES (Schedule)		
National Chapter designated funds	975,431	1,036,671
Board of Directors designated funds	537,695	534,487
General fund	185,023	(149,202)
Endowment fund	103,730	126,027
	<u>1,801,879</u>	<u>1,547,983</u>
	<u>1,855,302</u>	<u>1,588,356</u>

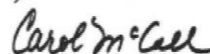
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Approved on behalf of the Board:

President



Treasurer



THE NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA IODE

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Fund Balances

Year ended December 31	2025 \$	2024 \$
Revenues (Schedule)		
Fees from chapters	64,563	68,992
Contributions from chapters (excluding endowment contributions shown below)	77,997	53,223
Investment income	27,112	34,957
Realized gains on sale of investments	556	36,164
Calendar sales	3,205	3,440
Donations - other	348,229	78,888
Badges and supplies	2,172	2,628
Annual meeting	20,575	26,775
Insurance (chapter assessment)	10,067	10,622
Endowment fund contributions	595	905
Other income	735	997
	555,806	317,591
Expenses (Schedule)		
Scholarships and awards	172,941	113,483
Salaries and benefits	88,639	84,924
Calendar printing and shipping	1,079	1,406
Rent	22,958	21,007
Magazine printing and distribution ("Echoes")	11,121	9,990
Annual meeting	18,064	21,090
Travel	7,868	6,697
Badges and supplies	-	573
Office	3,295	2,657
Membership promotion	995	1,771
Insurance (general liability)	10,810	11,850
Postage and printing	4,260	4,905
Professional services	23,791	18,410
Telephone	2,466	2,927
Equipment expense	5,441	6,059
Fund expenditures	5,715	6,170
	379,443	313,919
Excess of revenues over expenses before the following	176,363	3,672
Unrealized gains on investments	77,533	71,903
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	253,896	75,575
Fund balances - at beginning of year	1,547,983	1,472,408
Fund balances - at end of year	1,801,879	1,547,983

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

THE NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA IODE

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended December 31	2025 \$	2024 \$
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash received from chapters	143,370	117,625
Investment income	29,403	53,574
Cash received from donors and others	385,578	124,255
Cash paid to scholarships	(50,036)	(45,030)
Cash paid to contributions and awards	(117,905)	(68,453)
Cash paid to employees and suppliers	(199,848)	(200,635)
	190,562	(18,664)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of investments	(610,136)	(627,555)
Proceeds of sale of investments	416,927	622,803
	(193,209)	(4,752)
Decrease in cash during the year	(2,647)	(23,416)
Cash and cash equivalents - at beginning of year	90,557	113,973
Cash and cash equivalents - at end of year	87,910	90,557
Cash and cash equivalents consist of		
Cash	57,561	76,291
Cashable GICs	2,000	2,000
Cash at broker	28,349	12,266
	87,910	90,557

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

THE NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA IODE

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2025

Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire ("IODE" or the "Organization") is a Canadian women's organization founded in 1900, incorporated by a special act of the Parliament of Canada in 1917, continued in 1968 and further continued in 2013 under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act without share capital. It is a registered charitable organization under the Income Tax Act (Canada).

Approximately 1,215 members are organized in 78 provincial and primary chapters. Administrative oversight is exercised by The National Chapter of Canada IODE.

IODE undertakes an extensive variety of charitable and philanthropic projects every year. These include both financial assistance (including a doctoral scholarship program) and contributions of time and effort to students and educational institutions, hospitals, the under-privileged and those in need.

1. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and are in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. These financial statements have been prepared within the framework of the significant accounting policies summarized below.

(a) Fund Accounting

The Organization follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions whereby all contributions which are subject to similar external restrictions are recognized as revenue in the relevant restricted fund when received or receivable and collection is reasonably assured.

Restricted contributions received for which no fund exists are deferred and recognized in the general fund as the restrictive conditions are met and the related activity expenses are incurred.

The General Fund

The General Fund receives unrestricted donations, member fees and other unrestricted revenues including unrestricted investment income. These funds are used to maintain the administrative operations of IODE.

National Chapter Designated Funds

The National Chapter Designated Funds receive restricted donations and investment income to provide scholarships for Canadian students in their second year doctoral program.

Board of Directors Designated Funds

The Board of Directors Designated Funds receive restricted donations and investment income to provide various scholarships and other program funding for various programs approved the Board.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2025

1. **Significant accounting policies (continued)**

(a) **Fund Accounting (continued)**

Endowment Fund

The endowment fund receives endowment contributions to be held in trust and the income to be used to further the work of IODE.

The combined operating results are presented in the statement of revenues, expenses and fund balances and detailed restricted fund activity is presented in the schedule of changes in fund balances.

(b) **Financial instruments**

(i) **Measurement of financial instruments**

The Organization initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value adjusted by, in the case of a financial instrument that will not be measured subsequently at fair value, the amount of transaction costs directly attributable to the instrument.

The Organization subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost, except for investments which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Fund Balances. Fair values are determined by reference to published price quotations in an active market at year end.

Financial assets and financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include cash and cash equivalents, receivable from chapters, accounts payable and accrued liabilities and scholarships payable.

(ii) **Impairment**

Financial assets measured at amortized cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of possible impairment. When a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows from the financial asset or group of assets, a write-down is recognized in net income. The write down reflects the difference between the carrying amount and the higher of:

- the present value of the cash flows expected to be generated by the asset or group of assets;
- the amount that could be realized by selling the assets or group of assets;

When the events occurring after the impairment confirm that a reversal is necessary, the reversal is recognized in net income up to the amount of the previously recognized impairment. The amount of the reversal is recognized in income in the period that the reversal occurs.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2025

1. **Significant accounting policies (continued)**

(c) **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in the bank, cash at broker and cashable GICs which are readily converted to cash.

(d) **Investments**

Investments are recorded at fair value. The quoted market price at the statement of financial position date is used to determine the fair value of the investments.

(e) **Equipment**

The Organization's equipment is immaterial in amount and expensed in the year of purchase. Equipment purchased during the year totaled \$NIL (\$922 - 2024).

(f) **Revenue recognition**

Fees from chapters are determined by the Board of Directors and are recognized as revenue in the fiscal year in which they are due.

Contributions from chapters are determined by the individual chapters and are recognized as revenue when received or receivable.

Sales and fundraising is recognized as revenue when services are provided or when earned.

Investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

(g) **Contributed Services**

Volunteers contribute significant time in carrying out the Organization's activities. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in these financial statements.

(h) **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make judgments, estimates, and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. These estimates are based on information available as of the date of issuance of the financial statements. Actual results may differ materially from those estimates.

Key areas of estimation where management has made difficult, complex or subjective judgments include valuation of investments. Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the year in which the estimates are revised and in any future years affected.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2025

2. **Financial instrument risk management**

Transactions in financial instruments may result in an entity assuming or transferring to another party one or more of the financial risks described below. The following disclosures provide information to assist users of the financial statements in assessing the extent of risk related to the Organization's financial instruments.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a transaction will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. The Organization's main credit risks relate to accounts receivable. The Organization is not exposed to significant credit risk.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Organization cannot repay its obligations when they become due to its creditors. The Organization is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its accounts payable and accrued liabilities and scholarships payable. The Organization expects to meet these obligations as they come due by generating sufficient cash flow from operations.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk is comprised of currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The Organization is not exposed to significant currency risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of fixed income securities will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The value of fixed income investments will generally rise if interest rates fall and decrease if interest rates rise. The Organization is exposed to interest rate risk on its fixed income securities.

Other price risk

The Organization is exposed to other price risk, which is the potential loss that the Organization may incur with respect to the changes in fair value of investments. The fair value of investments will fluctuate because of changes in market price whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual investments, or its issuers or factors affecting all similar investments traded in the market. The Organization is exposed to other price risk on its equity and mutual fund securities.

Changes in risk

There have been no changes in the Organization's risk exposure from that of the prior year.

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2025

3. Investments

Details of investments are as follows:

Quantity	2025	2024
	\$	\$
24,814 (21,212 - 2024) Dynamic premium yield plus fund	260,496	222,108
23,462 (23,537 - 2024) Lysander corporate value bond fund	301,232	304,740
21,298 (21,526 - 2024) Picton income fund	214,588	216,182
23,586 (23,535 - 2024) PIMCO monthly income fund	299,539	290,064
29,596 (28,587 - 2024) CIBC core plus fixed income pool	272,823	262,327
1,448 (0 - 2024) Algonquin fixed income fund	144,990	-
11,880 (0 - 2024) Pender Corporate bond fund	147,298	-
4,480 (5,000 - 2024) Emera incorporated preferred shares	116,570	120,600
0 (6,720 - 2024) Life & Banc Split Corp preferred shares	-	72,509
	1,757,536	1,488,530

4. Fund transfers

During the year, a motion for a transfer of up to \$25,000 (\$14,500 - 2024) from the Endowment Fund to the General Fund was approved by the Board of Directors and by the National Chapter in session. Funds in the amount of \$25,000 (\$14,500 - 2024) was transferred during the year.

During the year, funds in the amount of \$NIL (\$7,761 - 2024) was transferred from the Together for Tomorrow Fund to the General Fund.

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2025

5. Lease commitments

The Organization had entered into a lease for office premises which expires December 31, 2025. The Organization is currently paying rent for its office premises on a year to year basis. Total base rent paid during the year was \$19,710 (\$19,200 - 2024).

Leases for office equipment expire between December 2026 and March 2029. The minimum rental payments under the leases are as follows:

	Equipment
	\$
2026	9,736
2027	8,472
2028	8,472
2029	2,118
	<u>28,798</u>

In addition, the Organization is committed to pay its proportionate share of taxes and operating costs which, in 2025, amounted to approximately \$NIL (\$1,800 - 2024). This is net of a rebate in the amount of \$NIL (\$1,231 - 2024) received from the City of Toronto.

The Organization is committed to honouring any premise lease obligations entered into by the Provincial chapters.

6. Guarantees and indemnities

The Organization has indemnified its past, present and future directors, officers and volunteers against expenses (including legal expenses), judgments and any amount actually or reasonably incurred by them in connection with any action, suit or proceeding, subject to certain restrictions. The Organization has purchased directors' and officers' liability insurance to mitigate the cost of any potential future suits and actions, but there is no guarantee that the coverage will be sufficient should any action arise.

In the normal course of business, the Organization has entered into agreements that include indemnities in favour of third parties, either express or implied, such as in service contracts, lease agreements or sales and purchase contracts. In these agreements, it agrees to indemnify the counterparties in certain circumstances against losses or liabilities arising from the acts or omissions of the Organization. The maximum amount of any potential liability cannot be reasonably estimated.

**THE NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA IODE
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025**

	REVENUES					EXPENSES					Balance at End of Year
	Balance at Beginning Year	Investment Income	Realized Gains (Losses) on Sale of Investments	Contributions and Donations	Other	Scholarships, Projects and Awards	Administration Charges (Recovery)	Other	Transfers		
General Fund											
General operations	\$ (45,085)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 298,385	\$ 98,112	\$ -	\$ (38,774)	\$ 203,579	\$ 25,000	\$ 211,807	
Unrealized gains (losses) on investments	(104,117)	-	-	-	77,533	-	-	-	-	(26,584)	
	(149,202)	-	-	298,385	175,645	-	(38,774)	203,579	25,000	185,023	
Endowment Fund											
General operations	126,027	2,067	41	595	-	-	-	-	-	128,730	
Transfer to General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(25,000)	(25,000)	
Transfer to Together for Tomorrow Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	126,027	2,067	41	595	-	-	-	-	(25,000)	103,730	
National Chapter Designated Funds											
1st War Memorial - capital	396,837	3,392	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	396,837	
- income	(175,187)	-	-	-	-	27,500	-	-	-	(199,225)	
2nd War Memorial - capital	1,006,317	12,982	266	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,006,917	
- income	(191,956)	-	-	1,575	-	27,535	24,460	-	-	(238,798)	
	1,036,871	16,344	336	1,575	-	55,035	24,460	-	-	975,431	
Board of Directors Designated Funds											
Education	24,213	396	8	4,865	3,205	6,000	726	1,079	-	24,882	
V. Downey Book Award	10,565	182	4	7,263	-	4,241	317	281	-	13,175	
Joan Butler Memorial	5,929	87	2	-	-	1,000	178	-	-	4,859	
Ursula E. Bangs Award	(61)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(61)	
Lairabook	9,385	156	3	1,540	-	900	282	-	-	9,902	
Quebec Funds	9,136	131	3	-	-	2,000	274	-	-	6,566	
Labrador Bursary	126,510	1,974	41	2,781	-	10,400	3,795	-	-	117,111	
National Services	6,908	125	3	1,685	-	-	207	-	-	8,514	
Snack Pack	78,707	1,287	26	44,160	-	41,637	2,361	-	-	80,122	
Canadian Disaster	30,484	531	11	4,975	-	915	-	-	-	35,086	
Citizenship	555	9	-	1,375	-	1,346	17	-	-	576	
National Officers Special Account	10,618	178	4	795	-	-	-	191	-	11,404	
100th Anniversary Program - capital	261,571	2,192	45	-	-	-	4,922	-	(2,237)	261,571	
100th Anniversary Grant Program - income	(100,827)	-	-	1,625	-	50,000	4,922	-	2,237	(151,787)	
Life Membership	12,859	196	4	820	-	322	386	-	-	13,171	
Bolingbrook Restoration	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	
Public Relations	1,141	24	-	170	-	-	34	(485)	-	1,790	
Edith and Gordon Benson Fund	1,628	9	-	-	-	-	989	-	-	648	
125th Anniversary Fund	45,142	1,130	23	47,966	-	-	-	872	-	53,389	
Together for Tomorrow - income	-	94	2	6,246	-	-	6,246	-	-	6,342	
	534,487	8,701	179	126,866	3,205	117,986	14,314	2,923	-	537,886	
TOTAL - All Funds	\$ 1,547,983	\$ 27,112	\$ 556	\$ 426,821	\$ 178,650	\$ 173,941	\$ -	\$ 206,502	\$ -	\$ 1,881,379	

**THE NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA IODE
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

	Balance at Beginning of Year	REVENUES					EXPENSES					Balance at End of Year
		Investment Income	Realized Gains (Losses) on Sale of Investments	Contributions and Donations	Scholarships, Projects and Awards	Administration Charges (Recovery)	Other	Transfers				
General Fund												
General operations	\$ (46,883)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,080	\$ -	\$ (52,408)	\$ 196,818	\$ 28,134	\$ -	\$ (45,085)	\$ 104,117	
Unrealized gains (losses) on investments	(176,020)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(149,202)	
	(222,873)	-	-	8,080	-	(52,408)	196,818	28,134	-	-	(149,202)	
Endowment Fund												
General operations	139,622	2,987	2,986	905	-	-	-	-	-	(6,673)	140,827	
Transfer to General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(14,500)	(14,500)	
Transfer to Together for Tomorrow Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	139,622	2,987	2,986	905	-	-	-	-	-	(20,373)	126,027	
National Chapter Designated Funds												
131st War Memorial - capital	396,537	4,598	4,756	-	-	-	-	-	-	(9,364)	396,537	
2nd War Memorial - capital	(162,001)	-	-	-	22,500	-	-	-	-	9,364	(176,187)	
2nd War Memorial - income	1,006,917	16,886	17,242	-	-	-	-	-	-	(83,908)	1,006,917	
	(169,769)	-	-	-	22,500	-	-	-	-	33,908	(191,536)	
	1,071,644	21,264	21,998	-	45,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,038,671	
Board of Directors Designated Funds												
Education	24,394	489	506	5,545	7,779	976	1,406	-	-	-	24,213	
V. Downey Book Award	8,072	183	189	7,390	4,727	323	219	-	-	-	10,565	
Jean Butler Memorial	6,942	130	134	-	1,000	278	-	-	-	-	5,928	
Ursula E. Bangs Award	(61)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(61)	
Labrabook	9,014	183	189	960	600	361	-	-	-	-	9,388	
Quebec Funds	10,809	201	208	360	2,000	432	-	-	-	-	12,800	
Labrador Bursary	128,968	2,574	2,663	2,345	4,900	5,160	-	-	-	-	136,510	
National Services	6,061	127	131	2,155	1,324	242	-	-	-	-	6,908	
Snack Pack	70,868	1,483	1,534	49,416	41,759	2,835	-	-	-	-	78,707	
Canadian Disaster	32,322	629	651	1,175	3,000	1,293	-	-	-	-	30,484	
Citizenship	9,291	17	16	359	1,214	50	22	-	-	-	10,568	
National Officers Special Account	10,000	202	209	975	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,586	
100th Anniversary Grant Program - capital	261,573	3,226	3,300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	265,079	
100th Anniversary Grant Program - income	(102,347)	-	-	1,225	-	6,373	-	-	-	-	(100,827)	
Life Membership	12,152	-	261	630	-	486	-	-	-	-	12,869	
Bilingual Registration	20	-	39	5	150	-	-	-	-	-	26	
Public Relations	2,843	38	39	85	-	114	1,750	-	-	-	4,829	
Edith and Gordon Benson Fund	1,563	32	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,628	
125th Anniversary Fund	-	892	923	49,327	-	-	-	-	-	-	45,142	
Together for Tomorrow - income	-	-	152	7,463	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,761	
- Transfer to General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(7,761)	
	484,015	10,806	11,180	123,801	68,453	18,923	3,618	-	-	(7,761)	634,487	
TOTAL - All Funds	\$ 1,472,408	\$ 34,957	\$ 36,164	\$ 133,016	\$ 113,483	\$ -	\$ 200,436	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,647,983	

NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP REPORT
Catherine Moore, Citizenship Officer

United Nations Peacekeeper Bar presented in 2025	#0	Donations to local Community Service	\$54,713.65
Canadian Forces Bar Presented in 2025	#3	Donations: Provincial Citizenship Fund	\$360
Promoting Canadian Culture (describe below)	\$7,315.92	Donations: National Citizenship Fund	\$1,835
Participation in Citizenship Courts	#0 \$0	Assistance to Canadian Forces and Military Family Resource Centres	\$2,150
Presentation of Flags	#201	Presentation of Wreaths	#46
Donations to Indigenous Communities	\$0	Presentation of Community Citizenship Awards: {Police, Firefighter, First Responders}	#6 \$950
Other Citizenship Activities Citizenship Reaffirmation Events, Environmental Awareness, Health Awareness, Personal Safety, etc.	\$55,107.26	Presentation of Good Citizenship or Appreciation Awards	#20 \$2,570.39
Total value of Citizenship programs for 2025			\$128,703.22
Monetary Expenditures			
Member Volunteer Hours			<u>252,117.5 hours</u>
Hours Volunteered by Friends of IODE			<u>6,951.5 hours</u>

Increasing potential for citizenship activity in public life, often in new ways, given lessons learned during the pandemic, increased in 2025. IODE members' ability to address the responsibilities of Canadian citizenship have grown too. More traditional IODE activities remain important and apparent. Members appreciate their citizenship and strive to support their fellow citizens and the nation's civil infrastructure. Citizenship is the guiding principle of IODE commitment that underlies our organization's Education, Services and Citizenship work.

Member volunteer work hours have increased significantly this year and are over 250,000 hours.

Please take note, that for a second year, in response to primary chapter requests, the Citizenship Annual Report offered an opportunity to report volunteer hours of non-member "Friends of IODE" who have assisted chapters with their projects. These important volunteer hours are to be reported separately from those of IODE members given the federal government's collection of member volunteer hours. These non-member hours are indicative of strong community support and

recognition of the value of IODE’s contributions to Canada. Chapters are encouraged to report these hours if relevant to their group.

Local Community Service

A significant increase in participation community service across Canada was notable this year. In addition to monetary support members all across Canada volunteered in their communities in significant ways. Numerous chapters, including **IODE Mary Lawson**, Dartmouth, NS, sought to educate members on health matters, available community resources including a mobile food market safely selling fresh, healthy foods to low income HRM families, personal safety and SCAM (Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act allowing confidential reporting of illegal activities). As well as assisting local community institutions chapters engaged directly across Canada in acts of kindness, for example in **IODE Richmond**, Richmond, BC, where direct assistance with everyday needs was given to elderly and disabled family and chapter members. Members across Canada, including those in **IODE New Brunswick** participated in community cleanup days. **IODE Captain Hooper**, Carleton Place, ON, sent 150 Christmas cards to seniors through the Meals on Wheels Program. Many chapters, including **IODE Prince Edward Island**, presented framed portraits of King Charles III for public venues. In **IODE Alberta**, as in other provinces, members were involved in their churches, petting zoos, choir practices, setting up volunteer rosters, helping with silent auctions and music festivals. This is but a small sample of the many ways IODE members engaged as citizens in their communities.

The National Chapter of Canada IODE RCMP Community Service Award

Since 1992, this award has been presented at the time of the National Annual Meeting to the nominee submitted by the Commissioner of the RCMP, assisted by the RCMP Honours and Recognition Detachment. The recipient is an honoured member of the RCMP who is recognized for their exemplary volunteer work outside their formal duties. The award includes a framed citation and a \$1,000 honorarium to be used to further the volunteer work of the recipient.

In 2025, at the 125th National Annual Meeting, for the 33rd time members were honoured to present The National Chapter of Canada IODE RCMP Community Service Award to Sgt. Kwabena Oppong, “H” Division, Halifax Regional Division. While representing the RCMP Commissioner, Chief Superintendent Christopher Leather read a citation describing Sgt. Oppong:

“On behalf of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), I wish to express my sincere congratulations to you upon being awarded the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire 2025 Police Community Relations Award.” In presenting this he said:

Through your volunteer work with sports, you have created a constructive way of interacting with the Black community, encouraging positive interactions with the police and creating mentorship opportunities for young Black Nova Scotians. Your exceptional commitment to building relationships between members of your community and the police is remarkable and contributes to bringing a sense of reconciliation and interest in joining the Force. Your dedication to the youth of your community and promotion of inclusivity and the well-being of all Canadians is noteworthy. You are putting words into action to keep our communities safe, and you are bringing out the best in yourself by living our core values.

Thank you again for your dedication and commitment to an inclusive, healthy, and safe community that fosters trust in the RCMP. Your work reflects our mission, vision, and values, and demonstrates the very best of the RCMP.”

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Renate Schuetz, Communications & Public Relations Officer

To mark IODE's quasiquicentennial (125th Anniversary), chapters launched new programs and expanded existing initiatives. IODE received strong media coverage highlighting upcoming events, demonstrating the impact of donations and showcasing members' community involvement.

Chapters promoted their work through Facebook, Instagram, WeChat, Google and offline channels, including local newsletters and church bulletin boards. Members partnered with local groups for fundraisers and maintained a visible presence at community events, including District Trade Shows, where one chapter's pie booth won the "Most Popular" award. Another chapter was recognized on the National Service Dog website for its donation.

Chapters received handmade thank-yous from adopted schools or were acknowledged on school social media. Members assisted at the IODE booth during the 2025 CNE, and one member spoke about IODE on a podcast. Outreach remained a priority, with handwritten notes, Valentine cards for retirement home residents and Christmas cards for Canadian Armed Forces personnel. "Friend of IODE" posters were also distributed to community partners. Some chapters created dedicated Facebook pages for online auctions to increase awareness.

In October, during IODE Awareness Month, municipalities recognized local chapters with digital displays, official proclamations, and certificates of appreciation. Chapters supported remembrance and heritage initiatives, including commemorative banners, plaques and participation in Remembrance Day ceremonies that they shared on social media.

As part of the 125th Anniversary celebrations, the National Chapter produced promotional materials, including stickers (reading "Donated to Celebrate 125 Years of IODE Service in Canada"), buttons (with the annual meeting logo, "Embracing Our Future ~ Celebrating Our Past"), 15,000 commemorative bookmarks and bookplates for donated books. Chapters used these promotional materials to strengthen their presence, inform the community and celebrate the work of IODE. The National Chapter created a new IODE-branded floor banner and backdrop that were purchased for future events. The backdrop was especially well received at the 2025 National Annual Meeting in London, Ontario, where it quickly became a popular spot for selfies and group photos.

To launch IODE's 125th Anniversary celebrations, a video was produced featuring the 2024/2025 Board of Directors congratulating members on their dedicated service in Canada. A seven-minute video, "A Legacy... Celebrating 125 Years of IODE," created by a valued friend of IODE, traced the organization's founding in January 1900, highlighted key milestones over the years, and concluded with a message from National President Jane Cushing.

At the 2025 National Annual Meeting, IODE Ontario President Helen Danby presented "Celebrating Our Past – A Fun Look at 125 Years of Remarkable IODE Accomplishments." This presentation was later converted into a 32-minute video documenting IODE's achievements and contributions throughout Canadian history, showcasing the organization's enduring impact year by year since its founding.

All videos are available on the National website.

The National Officers offered three different Chats (learning circles) that were recorded and shared on our YouTube channel and the Member Resources website. National 1st VP & Public Relations/Communications Officer, Renate Schuetz along with National 2nd VP & Education Officer, Helen Danby led the Public Relations "It's Not Bragging If It's True!", focusing on sharing IODE stories. "Try It! You'll Like It!" led by Alberta President Janis Ogilvie and National President Karen Dalton, explored ways to encourage members into leadership roles. Ontario President, Michelle Batty and National Membership Officer, Diane Ellison conducted "New Members. New

Momentum. Our Future.”, highlighting membership as the cornerstone of IODE’s growth and retention.

Reported values decreased from 2024, primarily because chapters reported printing fewer tickets, posters, and newsletters. Conversely, the value of social media increased, reflecting a rise in followers and greater public awareness. Reported digital billboard and radio activity declined, resulting in a lower value. The cost of recording nine videos during 2025 was fully covered at no charge, thanks to friends of IODE and in-house technology. Expenses for 125th anniversary promotional materials were covered from National Funds that are supported by chapters and made available to all chapters free of charge upon request.

IODE’s 125th anniversary celebrated members’ achievements, boosted public awareness through digital and traditional channels, and highlighted the organization’s lasting impact on communities nationwide. All members are congratulated for their dedication and leadership in making this milestone year possible. Looking ahead, IODE will continue supporting communities through volunteering, leadership and meaningful outreach across Canada.

\$287,549 Reported value for Public Relations and Communications
\$ 11,150 Reported disbursements

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION REPORT **Carol McCall, Constitution Officer**

The Constitution Committee is a resident committee of Head Office charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the Constitution and By-laws of IODE are current, meet the needs of an efficiently operating organization and do not contravene the legislation of Canada.

The Committee met once during 2025. It reviewed and approved proposed bylaw revisions to the IODE Ontario Bylaws pursuant to National Regulations to ensure that the revisions were in compliance with *General Operating By-law No. 1* and the regulations and policies of the National Chapter and Policies. The Constitution Committee remains available to consider revisions to the IODE Constitution and to bylaws of provincial chapters.

NATIONAL ECHOES REPORT **Stephney Flexhaug, Managing Editor**

Echoes had been published continuously since 1902. The magazine reflected the diversity of our chapters, highlighted the work of IODE members and featured editorials, regular columns and the programs supported. In its early years, this 50-page publication measured 10.5 × 13.5 inches. It was said to have had a larger subscription than Chatelaine. The *Echoes* Committee engaged an advertising agency to solicit companies to purchase advertising space, ranging from one-eighth to full-page placements. Advertisers included Eaton’s, Simpsons, major banks, insurance companies, Canada Post, cigarette manufacturers, jewellers and furriers. In the mid-1950s, advertising agencies rated *Echoes* in the top 10 Canadian national magazines.

Issues from 1902 to 2020 were preserved in large, heavy bound volumes, with several years of *Echoes* contained in each book. In total, there were 27 volumes, which were housed at the National Office.

The *Echoes* Committee was comprised of members from across Canada who met regularly by Zoom to prepare two issues of *Echoes*. This year’s co-chairs resided in Alberta and Ontario. The Spring (No. 437) issue was 16 pages and celebrated IODE’s 125th Anniversary. The cover featured a collage of images highlighting members, supported projects and programs that benefited from members’ work. The President’s message included an account of IODE New Brunswick hosting the first anniversary event in Fredericton, the location of the very first IODE meeting. It reflected on how much IODE had grown while continuing to maintain its mission of

enhancing the quality of life for individuals.

The issue included full pages dedicated to Remembrance Day commemorations, Citizenship activities and educational initiatives. Four pages titled *IODE's 125th Anniversary* highlighted scholarship awards in Manitoba, services to Northern Ontario, IODE Canada's support of the National Youth Orchestra, Alberta's Safety for Children program and a description of the new 125th Celebration Fund. It also featured images with descriptions of chapter community donations and a "look back in time," summarizing the 75th Anniversary initiative, when members sold roses and the funds were used to support provincial projects focused on children's well-being.

Two full pages of *Chapters in the News* and *Community Service* displayed members actively participating in a variety of community initiatives.

The two *Membership* pages included a photo of members from the IODE Trillium 2023 Chapter, a virtual Ontario chapter, as well as photos of IODE members receiving the King Charles III Coronation Medal.

Specifics of the hybrid 125th IODE National Annual Meeting in London, Ontario and an agenda in brief were included.

The back cover was an ideal location to feature the recipient of the IODE 100th Anniversary Grant Program, ensuring high visibility and impact.

The Fall (No. 438) issue was 16 pages and continued celebrating IODE's 125th anniversary, with the cover featuring a biography of Karen Dalton and her installation as the 47th President of IODE Canada.

Page two included an update on the IODE Snack Pack 2025–2026 food order, highlighted the visibility of IODE members and acknowledged community allies.

The President's message, recapping her attendance at Annual Meetings, appeared on page three, together with the recipient of the IODE RCMP Community Service Award.

This issue featured highlights of the National Annual Meeting, with pages dedicated to recipients of the IODE War Memorial Scholarships, Performance Arts awards, the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, IODE Labrador bursaries and endowed awards. It introduced the 2025–2026 IODE Canada Board of Directors and Committee Chairs. Additional content included a recap of the *Share a Story... Bring a Book* initiative, National Membership Awards, the winning title and shortlisted books for the IODE Violet Downey Book Award concluding with a message from the Past National President.

The four pages titled *IODE's 125th Anniversary* covered IODE members in action, supporting their communities and past national projects. *IODE Signature Programs* articles described the impact of the IODE British Columbia Mary Emerson Trust and the IODE Manitoba Laura Secord Essay Contest.

Two full pages of *Chapters in the News* and *Community Service* captured members actively involved in a variety of community initiatives.

The back cover editorial detailing the 125th Celebration Fund completed the issue.

Members utilized copies of *Echoes* as a public relations tool i.e. presenting donations, school awards, as well as for recruitment purposes. Despite the increased production costs associated with four additional pages in both issues, the added value and impact made it well worth it.

Echoes is our chronicle, that represents our moment in this time, that future generations will see our impact.

Cost \$12,695

**NATIONAL EDUCATION REPORT
Helen Danby, Education Officer**

**The total investment in education from all chapters in 2025 was \$524,070.
National's total expenditure was \$129,400 and the chapters across Canada**

reported \$390,674 including support to Adopted Schools. Thanks to the generosity of the primary and provincial chapters across Canada, students have benefitted greatly. Local communities were grateful for chapter support through agencies, libraries and education initiatives with local shelters. Every level of a student's journey through education was supported through IODE's donations. It was evident that chapters were working closely with their community with 'Ask, Listen, Act'. Across Canada, thousands of books were donated to schools, daycares, libraries, community agencies and the Born to Read program with IODE's 125th Anniversary bookmarks, stickers and book plates.

Nationally, IODE chapters provided broad, hands-on support to local schools focused on improving student well-being, access to education, and learning outcomes. Assistance included scholarships, bursaries, and graduation awards, donations of books and literacy resources and funding for classroom supplies, arts, music, and enrichment programs. Chapters also addressed essential needs by supporting breakfast, lunch, and snack programs, providing school supplies, and assisting with special-needs and wellness initiatives such as sensory equipment and inclusive benches. In addition, chapters actively engaged with schools through award presentations, library partnerships, teacher appreciation, and community programs, ensuring support was both practical and locally responsive.

Assistance to local students: \$242,711

Graduations awards were presented for excellence at the elementary level and scholarships and bursaries for post-secondary education. Subject-specific awards (e.g. History, Geography, Music, Art, Science, Mathematics) and awards recognizing citizenship, leadership, volunteerism, and "most improved" students were given. Support for nursing, health sciences, and social services and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) students were given. Memorial and named awards honoring former members and support for mature students, Indigenous students, and students with financial need were granted.

Assistant to schools and outside communities included: \$103,021

- Award-winning National IODE Violet Downey book, *The Outsmarters* by Deborah Ellis and the IODE Ontario Jean Throop book, *Scooter Twins* by Dorothy Ellen Palmer were favourite donations to schools and libraries.
- Literacy prizes for improved reading achievement
- Educational resources for early learning and kindergarten classrooms
- School supplies (art materials, stationery, educational tools); books, puzzles, games, toys, and manipulatives; supplies for interactive play, creativity, and team building
- Materials purchased personally by members for classroom enrichment
- Breakfast and lunch program funding; snack programs for elementary and secondary students; Backpack food programs for weekend meals and grocery gift cards for school nutrition initiatives
- Music and visual arts awards for music festivals and adjudicators
- Assistance for dance and performance training
- Tickets to school concerts or cultural events for students
- Sensory room equipment, special needs equipment and adaptive resources
- "Friendship" benches and inclusive spaces, support for mental health programs and at-risk youth and funding for wellness initiatives
- Funding for field trips and educational outings, day camps and outdoor learning programs
- Transportation (e.g., bussing for school activities)
- Support for leadership, empowerment, and youth development programs
- Sponsorship of school-based festivals and events
- Contributions for public library programs, such as summer reading programs

- Grants and lottery funds to assist with their community programs such as 'Born to Read' book bags with multiple new books for kindergarten students
- Collaboration with school boards and community resource centres were evident using the Ask, Listen, Act principle.

Donations to National and Provincial Education Funds \$24,989

At the National level, chapter support through donations and the purchase of planners allowed programs to continue. Chapters supported the Labrador Bursaries and Labrabook, the National Theatre School and the National Youth Orchestra bursaries, IODE Violet Downey Book Award, the 100th Anniversary Child Abuse Prevention Grant. (The value of these donations is detailed in the specific reports) At the Provincial level, the Born to Read and Lucy Morrison Memorial Fund for Education were supported. Many donations made through memorials and endowed funds were crucial to ensure programs continued.

Share a Story...Bring a Book 2025 \$4,500

Share a Story...Bring a Book began in 2011 at the National Annual Meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia to support early reading programs in the host province. Since then, each National Annual Meeting has seen an increase in the number of books and a friendly provincial competition as interest grew. The *Share a Story...Bring a Book* initiative has contributed over 5,000 books valued at \$44,000 in fifteen years.

Prior to the 2025 National Annual Meeting in London, Ontario, the *Vanier Children's Mental Wellness Centre* was chosen as the recipient. Vanier was thrilled at the prospect of having books on mental health available to children of all ages.

A special thank you to Aileen Reid for her assistance in furthering the Mental Health theme at the National Annual Meeting for the *Share-a-Story...Bring-a-Book*. The procedure was a little different from past years. Aileen contacted *The Vanier Children's Mental Wellness Centre* in London and Middlesex County, prior to the National Annual meeting, and **ASKed** for a list of requested books. The range for books included texts for the counsellors, children's books and parental guides. **LISTEN:** This list was circulated to members via IODE Canada *Express News* giving IODE members a choice of purchasing from the suggested booklist, bringing a suitable children's book or donating funds for this program.

The list of recommended books forwarded to IODE members included requested books on trauma, PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder), bullying, eating disorders, depression, suicide, anxiety, bipolar, schizophrenia, behavioural, grief and loss, etc., to help children build resiliency. The Vanier Centre, said that **any** kind of book was also good to put out for children/parents to read and, "Some children don't own a book so it's nice to be able to send them home with one".

Cassie Barber, Director of Clinical Services, of *Vanier Children's Mental Wellness Centre* was present to thank IODE members who graciously made donations. Vanier has been in operation for 60 years and offers various programs and services for children and youth (up to 18 years old), their families and community. Their services are designed to support families with children struggling with social, emotional, behavioural, and mental health issues. These may include trauma such as grief, separation anxiety, socializing at school, bullying, etc. (Please see their website for specific details.) Books are a good way for children to learn that they are not alone with their particular problem. The solution is often given in a story that may be read each night. The problem is not the individual child's, but they can relate to it because it is the other's problem through the character in the book.



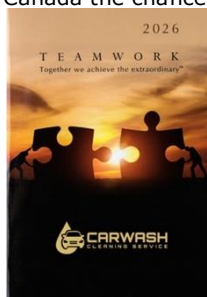
ACT: Over 160 books and cash funding came in to support the *Vanier Children's Mental Wellness Centre*. In total, over \$4,500 in books and donations were received.

Sherri from the Vanier Children's Mental Wellness Centre stated, "We extend our heartfelt thanks to **IODE** for their generous book donation to Vanier Children's Mental Wellness, specifically to our Child and Family Therapist group. These books have quickly become an integral part of our work, supporting our clinicians not only as valuable clinical references but also as meaningful tools used directly in therapy sessions with children and youth. Many of the children we support struggle to find words for their experiences, and these stories help create safe, accessible ways to explore emotions, begin conversations, and feel understood. This thoughtful gift has strengthened our clinical practice and enriched the support we provide to children and families. We are truly grateful to IODE for their care, generosity, and belief in the healing power of books."

Planners

\$2,020

Proceeds from the IODE planners' sales supported National Education Awards for young artists at the National Theatre School of Canada and the National Youth Orchestra of Canada. Each of these organizations give talented youth from across Canada the chance to improve their talents and learn from professionals.



Annually the Education committee meets to choose the cover for the following year. Thank you to Office Administrator Mary Gan for sorting the planners and her contact with the printers to ensure each planner was in excellent shape. Last year 300 planners were ordered and 324 were sold as extras were received. Planners were a great tool to record volunteer hours, meetings, appointments and IODE project dates.

A profit of \$2,020 supported awards for the **National Theatre School** and the **National Youth Orchestra**. Thank you to members for their continued support.

National Awards and Projects: Amounts awarded:

- War Memorial Scholarships – endowed funds \$55,000
- Labrador Bursary – donations & endowed funds (page 24) \$ 9,500
- Labrabook - donations (page 25) \$ 900
- IODE Violet Downey Book Award – donations (page 20) \$5,000
- 100th Anniversary Grant Program (granted biannually) – endowed \$50,000
- National Theatre School - National Education funded - planners \$ 3,000
- National Youth Orchestra – National Education funded - planners \$ 3,000
- Montreal Hospital Nurses- IODE Quebec Chapter endowment \$ 1,000
- Silence to Sound – IODE Quebec Chapter endowment \$ 1,000
- IODE Joan Butler Award in Perinatal Intensive Care Nursing- endowed \$ 1,000

National Theatre School (2 x \$1,500)

\$3,000

Since 1986, IODE Canada has offered bursaries to students at the National Theatre School. These bursaries of \$1,500 each, not only recognize the exceptional artistic potential of the students, but also provide crucial financial support, allowing them to focus entirely on their creative and academic development. The Education Committee received and approved the award. In 2025, the annual direct bursary recipients were **Yasmine Brown and Noah Hammermeister**.

Janie-Kim Béland, Assistant to the CEO, of the **National Theatre School** stated, "The National Theatre School of Canada were pleased to nominate two exceptional

students for the IODE Scholarships...This year's nominees have distinguished themselves through their dedication, resilience, and leadership within their programs, while facing significant financial challenges as they pursue their studies. The IODE Scholarships make a tangible difference in their ability to focus on their artistic and academic development by easing the financial strain that accompanies a demanding conservatory education."

Yasmine Brown, Québec, a second-year student in the Set and Costume Design program, was described as determined and creative. She stood out for her commitment and meticulous attention to detail.... Curious and open-minded, she explored diverse aesthetic and technical approaches and contributed original, insightful ideas to her group. Her rigor and artistic sensitivity made her both a valued collaborator and a promising emerging artist.

Noah Hammermeister, Acting Program, was a second-year student and a person of great heart, sensitivity, and authenticity, approached his training with courage and determination. Always striving to grow despite challenges, he invested fully in his work and artistic process. Within his group, Noah embodied a quiet and unifying form of leadership; through his gentleness, attentiveness, and kindness, he inspired trust and helped foster a strong and harmonious team spirit.

National Youth Orchestra (2 x \$1,500) **\$3,000**
The National Youth Orchestra awards were provided to two students who showed promise in music and attended the National Youth Orchestra Summer Program. The Education Committee approved the funds for the bursaries of the chosen recipients. Andres Tucci Clarke, Director of Impact and Engagement of the National Youth Orchestra, reported that the summer 2025 sponsored musicians were **Isla Ertl**, 17-year-old Viola player from Burlington and **Annika Maja Kho**, a 16-year-old violinist, from Oakville.

Isla Ertl's passion for music started early and ran deep. At 17, she had been playing strings for the last 12 years. In 2020, Isla found her voice and heart with the viola. Isla wrote, "Thank you so much for supporting NYO Canada. With your help, I can grow to become a better musician while making lasting friendships, connections, and reach one of my lifelong goals in this amazing program."

In the fall, she studied Viola Performance at the University of Toronto, one of her lifelong dreams. The main reason she joined [NYO Canada] was to enhance her orchestra and chamber music playing in her pursuit for a career in music. She was an active orchestral player with the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra, Orchestra Toronto, the Oakville Symphony Youth Orchestra, and the Burlington Symphony Orchestra in the Young Artist Mentorship program.

Regional competitions have given Isla many opportunities to refine her performance skills with great success having placed first in various categories at the Hamilton Music Festival, Peel Music Festival, Toronto Kiwanis Music Festival, and the Ontario Music Festival A Provincials.

ANNIKA MAJA KHO - 16 YR OLD VIOLINIST – OAKVILLE, ONTARIO

Based in Oakville, Ontario, 16-year-old Annika has played violin for nine years and has concluded her third consecutive year with the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra. Annika stated, "I can't even express how grateful I am for your support, I would not have had an opportunity like this without it."





"This is my first year in the NYO Canada! So far it has been an experience of a lifetime. The level of coaching here is incredible and my playing has already improved so much. Due to this program, my motivation and practice habits have become so much healthier. I am safe and supported here, at the same time as being encouraged to explore and develop myself and my music. It has given me a very valuable glimpse into a musician's lifestyle and made me realize how much I love it! Thank you so much!"

Annika has performed in masterclasses with such renowned artists as Midori, given recitals in Canada and the US, and been recognized with awards and scholarships across numerous festivals and specialized programs in the US and abroad. At 13 years of age, she was invited to play as the only amateur in an otherwise fully professional performance of Handel's Messiah and performed frequently across the Greater Toronto Area with several orchestras and chamber music groups performing not only classical but new music, jazz, pop, R&B, collaborative choral works, and a recording for the Toronto Symphony Orchestra's public relations campaign. Annika volunteered in the community as a Practice Mentor for local violin students and had a waiting list to accommodate the referral volume she received from violin teachers.

IODE Joan Butler Award in Perinatal Intensive Care Nursing (2 x \$500)

\$1,000

This award, established in 1988, was funded through the endowed and generous donation by Bruce Butler in memory his wife Joan, a former National Officer. The Perinatal Intensive Care Nursing Program at George Brown College, Toronto, Committee selected the recipients for the 2024-2025. They were **Gemma Tompkins** and **Harsha Seesankar**, two nurses who were early in their careers and were establishing their neonatal nursing expertise. Both nurses articulated clearly that completing the Perinatal Intensive Care Nursing Program provided them with an enhanced knowledge base to support their important work in caring for the sickest and most vulnerable infants and their families.

Gemma Tompkins practiced in a large tertiary care NICU in Nova Scotia that supports the entire province and is also a referral centre for other eastern provinces, in delivering care to critically ill neonates. Gemma incurred additional expenses to complete the Perinatal Intensive Care Nursing Program and continued to work overtime shifts to offset these debts.



Harsha Seesank practiced in a large tertiary care NICU in Ontario that supports a broad region across the mid-western part of the province in delivering care to critically ill newborns and their families. She overcame several additional and unexpected stressors throughout her term in the Perinatal Intensive Care Nursing Program yet was able to persevere and graduate.

Bursaries for Nurses at Montreal Children's Hospital

\$1,000

This award was funded from the retired IODE Province of Quebec Chapter monies that the National Chapter has administered since 2002. It was determined that the

fund support professional development of nursing staff at the Montreal Children's Hospital.

Cynthia Esposito, Administrative Assistant to Associate Director of Nursing at the Women's Health Mission & Montreal Children's Hospital, MUHC stated, "*On behalf of the Department of Nursing at the Montreal Children's Hospital, thank you for your ongoing commitment to advancing continuing education.*"

The Montreal Children's Hospital recipient was **Nadine Allard**, a Pediatric Nurse Clinician in the Complex Care Department as the recipient of the 2025 IODE Award. Nadine attended the International Pediatric Intestinal Failure and Rehabilitation Symposium in Pittsburg.

Silence to Sound Awards

\$1,000

This award began, in 1975, in honour of the Quebec Provincial Chapter's 50th Anniversary in 1974. Funds were raised to purchase hearing aids for the McKay Centre for Deaf and Disabled Children. This was the beginning of the *Silence to Sound* project. The Silence to Sound Award was presented annually to a student in the Master's program with research in the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec. The bursary program, initiated by the Provincial Chapter of Quebec, was assumed by IODE Canada in 2002.

In April 2025, **Grace Hoby**, a student in McGill's Communication Sciences and Disorders; Speech-Language Pathology Master's (MSc A) program, expressed sincere appreciation for being selected as the recipient of the Silence to Sound award in her recent correspondence. She wrote that, "*I am honoured to have been chosen for the IODE Silence to Sound Award, it inspires and pushes me to continue pursuing working with deaf and hard of hearing communities.*"

Grace grew up in British Columbia and completed her undergraduate degree in Speech Sciences at the University of British Columbia, where she discovered her passion for working with deaf and hard of hearing communities.



NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT
Diane Ellison

Province	Members (2025)	Members (2024)	# of Chapters (2025)	# of Chapters (2024)
BC	85	81	6	6
AB	185	198	12	13
MB	38	40	2	2
ON	608	692	37	43
QC	6	7	1	1
NB	136	149	7	10
NS	115	122	8	9
PEI	23	22	2	2
YT	10	9	1	1
Totals	1206	1320	76	87
	Included in numbers above		Included in numbers above	
Virtual Chapters	29	3	3	3
Alumni	6	5	1	1
Variance 25 vs 24	-9.19%		-11.49%	

Source: National Office Database as of 2025-12-31

Primary: The Membership Crystal Challenge Cup was awarded annually to the primary chapter attaining the most new members.

In 2025, the awards were presented to the following chapters for membership growth in 2024:

Crystal Cup Winner	IODE Frontenac , Stettler, AB and IODE Maple Leaf , Goderich, ON	With 12 new members
Runner Up	IODE Angela Bruce , Oakville, ON	with 11 new members
Runner Up	IODE Margaret Stokes , Petrolia, ON,	with 8 new members

Congratulations to the Crystal Cup winners and runner ups and congratulations to the chapters that have increased their membership numbers. They worked diligently to maintain and grow membership numbers.

Did you know?

- IODE was delighted to welcome 64 new members in 2025.
- IODE was thrilled to see a fantastic increase in membership in Virtual Chapters year over year, highlighting the creativity and flexibility of members as IODE adapted to new ways of connecting!
- While there was a decrease in membership and chapters year over year, members presented with an exciting opportunity to re-engage community and welcome new members with fresh enthusiasm!
- Ten primary chapters honoured members with Life Memberships and 20 primary chapters celebrated their members' dedication with Years of Service pins! Congratulations! Your commitment and spirit inspired all.
- Members responded enthusiastically to the Fall Membership Chats and came together to share creative recruitment ideas and inspiring success stories. Due to popular demand, these lively sessions will return in Fall 2026—don't miss out next time!
- Primary chapter reports provided valuable opportunities for learning. Each chapter's initiatives, noted in the following chart, contributed to the annual report and demonstrated continued commitment throughout the year.

Advertising & Promotion	Keeping Members Engaged
Presence on municipal and community websites	Send Welcome Info: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Packages - who we are • Letters - once a member seems interested
Articles in local newspapers	Reminders of events i.e. Special Guest Speakers
Facebook Pages and Chapter Websites	Holding meetings in a unique environment i.e. local restaurant.
Display signage and collateral material in local businesses	Periodic newsletters
Connect to municipal offices i.e. Fly the IODE Flag during awareness week.	Build ONE major annual project for all to be involved e.g. Butter Tarts Campaign
Distribution of collateral material (bookmarks, etc.) in retirement homes, colleges, universities, etc.	Developing personal relationships with the colleagues

A key lesson emerged from these reports: Every opportunity was needed to share best practices across Primary, Provincial and National Membership teams.

The power of our collective wisdom

Background:

In November 2025, a series of IODE Chats were held, one of which focused on membership. The following points were shared, and it is hoped that by reading them, they spark an approach that may be helpful to others.

Thank you to participants for these wonderful ideas!

- Every moment is a chance to connect! Empower others by sharing how IODE makes a difference—whether you're at the IODE shop, a community event, at work, or with another group. Enthusiastically tell the IODE story and give people your inspiring "elevator speech" whenever you can.
- Bring energy by speaking to groups! Your passion can spark interest and involvement.
- Always be ready to share IODE information. Carry bookmarks, business cards, info sheets, *Echoes*, or brochures to hospitals, schools, community centres, and libraries. Include these materials with donated items and at fundraisers, spreading the word joyfully.
- Create vibrant ads and articles for community publications, newspapers, and PSAs to showcase the incredible work done by IODE.
- Team up with other community service groups—collaboration leads to exciting new opportunities!
- Post eye-catching posters on community boards or in elevators at independent living retirement homes to attract new faces.
- Reach out to former Girl Guide Leaders, retired teachers, and nurses—shared interests make for wonderful connections.
- Invite people to casual coffee gatherings before business meetings. Show potential members how warm and welcoming the group is. Listen to members talk about friends, then reach out and invite them to join us.
- Keep the connection going: invite prospective members to lunch, follow up by email or phone, send information, and encourage them to join in!
- Keep the "FUN" in fundraising! Make meetings and events enjoyable—think wine-and-cheese nights, summer picnics, and friendly get-togethers. Remind newcomers that involvement is flexible and always appreciated. After events, say thank you and highlight how everyone's efforts made a difference.
- Pair new or prospective members with a buddy and offer rides to meetings and events to make everyone feel included.
- Find out what each person enjoys and help them get involved in ways that match their interests.
- Wear IODE-branded apparel and promotional items—these spark conversations and help spread the word. Display IODE decals on your car and wear buttons to all sorts of events!
- Work with Entertainment Directors in retirement homes to engage residents in independent living accommodations.
- Donate door prizes or auction items to local fundraisers, making sure to include IODE stickers and information to spread our excitement and mission.

NATIONAL SERVICES REPORT

Liz Hancock, Services Officer

In 2025, the total monetary value of Services work reported by chapters was \$1,471,319.51

Although the total monetary value of services work has declined somewhat, the

service provided to those in need by members and chapters continued to impress. This at a time of rising costs. Chapters small, large, and everything in between, showed dedication to the goals of IODE by supporting needy and vulnerable individuals and organizations within their local communities as well as across the country.

Five chapters operated thrift/consignment stores in their local communities and used the profits to support local, provincial and national IODE projects. Members and friends worked during store hours and spent many hours sorting, cleaning, and arranging donations after hours. Unfortunately, due to an ageing membership and problems maintaining the store, one chapter made the difficult decision to close their store.

Several chapters were awarded funds from casino licenses, volunteering at Bingo games, and provincial lottery funds. They received funds from government and community organization grants. Chapters used the FlipGive program to support IODE Snack Pack. Chapters sold grocery and store gift cards, nursery gift cards, Purdy's chocolates, spring flowers and plants, pies and butter tarts, turkey pies and tourtières, decorated tea cups and Christmas outdoor arrangements, hotdogs, jewelry, homemade fudge and cards, IODE logoed golf shirts for the 125th Anniversary, poinsettias and wreaths, they held garage sales, outdoor yard sales, rummage sales, handicraft sales, sold hand crocheted doilies they had received as a donation, used book sales, sold theatre tickets, basket raffles and quilt raffles, Mothers' Day brunches, Christmas arrangements, a Christmas Bazaar, plant sales, Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day, and St. Patrick's Day, Canada Day craft and bake sales. They held evenings with guest speakers, a harvest luncheon with a variety of soups and salad, a pancake breakfast, trivia nights, games nights, fashion shows often in association with other charitable groups, walk-a-thons, Euchre and bridge tournaments, worked at bingo halls, online auctions, Christmas Home Tours, and catered a High School Graduation Awards dinner. A chapter made teenage dignity bags. One chapter organized a bus trip for enthusiastic theatre goes after dinner at a restaurant. One chapter has been organizing weekly drop-in games of Pickle ball to get some exercise, socialize and promote IODE. They have a handout and pamphlets about IODE and have been given donations that have helped to cover the costs. A local pizza place donated a portion of one day's sales to an IODE chapter; another received a donation from Burger of the Month. Members came together to prepare items to be shipped to remote northern communities. One chapter ran its unique Ice Pool 50/50 raffle event where the winner was the closest to the actual day, hour, and minute when the Yukon River begins to flush clear its ice. In 2025, the Ice Pool generated a record-breaking prize pot of over \$4,500. All proceeds supported community initiatives.

Without need or opportunities to fundraise, members made personal donations of money and items to their chapter and other charities, continued to knit and sew, sent notes, Valentines and Christmas cards, filled Christmas stockings, adopted seniors and families, and made numerous calls to check on friends, family and those in need. Random acts of kindness continued to help others and improved their sense of wellbeing. Some chapters were able to focus on giving this year with healthy bank balances from previous year activities, and interest accrued from GICs. Chapters received donations from families of deceased members, donations from a Retirement Residence, collected food donations for a foodbank at their December Social meeting, and received honoraria for organizing community events. One chapter supported the 125th Anniversary Fund by playing the 'What's in your purse' game. This activity raised \$250. Once again chapters were creative and thoughtful in the support they provided to others.

Equipment and Furnishings

\$192,592.24

Donations, both monetary and of new and used household items including children's furniture and toys, Christmas decorations, yarn, tools, carpets, dishes, pots, pans,

glassware, and small appliances were made by individual members and the majority of primary chapters and Provincial chapters.

Donations of equipment and furnishings were made to hospitals, shelters, schools and daycares, a new Firehall kitchen, community centres, museums, hospices, long-term care facilities, organizations for refugees and new immigrants, Women in Need, and church ministries. One chapter made a \$17,000 donation to a hospital foundation for needed equipment.

Chapters made donations to schools and school districts. A chapter donated supplies for classes in carpentry, another a guitar for a talented needy student. Several members downsized so furniture, computers, kitchen ware were donated to charities supporting veterans and families in need and vocational schools. Wheelchair caddies were provided to three nursing homes. Unsold items from chapter rummage sales were donated to thrift stores and from IODE thrift stores to community garage sales. One chapter donated a commercial fridge cooler to a Community Kitchen delivering health and social services to the most vulnerable, and mattresses to a recovery centre for women allowing mothers and children to stay together. In addition, items were donated to other charities and groups including St Vincent de Paul, foodbanks, Goodwill, Canadian Diabetes, Big Brothers, Salvation Army, The Red Cross, Neighbourhood Works, Hospices, Habitat for Humanity, Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, Value Village, women's shelters, vocational centres, Baby Go Round, Fear is Not Love, the Legion, Transition Houses, and support Services in many communities.

Chapters donated furniture to Ukrainian refugees, items to homeless shelters, retirement residences, senior's centres, Community Living groups for mentally and physically challenged adults, Long Term Care Homes and Community Centres. A Provincial Chapter donated \$70,161.52 from the Mary Emerson Fund for renovations to Kin Village in Delta, a Diaz Wheelchair Trishaw for Mt. Saint Mary's in Victoria, new bistro furniture for Casa Loma Senior's Residence on Courtenay, new mattresses for Arrowsmith Health Care, and a new dryer for Columbus Residence in Vancouver.

Clothing, Bedding, and Layettes

\$600,257.91

New and gently-used items were donated to thrift shops, local charities, hospitals, homeless and emergency shelters, organizations supporting refugees and new immigrants and hospice thrift stores. Members made large donations to other charities including The Salvation Army, Big Brothers, Canadian Diabetes, Canadian Mental Health Association, Goodwill, Kidney Foundation, Value Village, Missions, shelters, thrift stores, women's shelters, Diabetes Canada, centres for teen parents, Ronald McDonald House, church groups, foodbanks including those supporting veterans, soup kitchens, community health clinics.

Chapters supported new immigrants, provided yarn and fabric to stores, to friends for knitting projects and to Social Fabric, a fabric recycling program as well as groups who provide appropriate work clothing to individuals in need who are re-entering the work force; hand-made quilts and stuffed animals to pregnancy care centres and to a branch of the Salvation Army and individual families in need; and clothing and knitted donations for Far North communities. One chapter supported the Stockings for Seniors project at Christmas. Chapters received clothing donations for their yard sales and bazaars. Members donated items from clearing out homes.

Many handknit baby hats including "preemie hats" were provided to mothers, hospitals, shelters, daycares and neonatal units. Mother and baby necessities including clothing, diapers, quilts, blankets and winter clothing were provided to remote communities, shelters, pregnancy support centres, and a baby shower. Layettes were provided to other groups supporting mothers and babies at risk.

Boys PJs, women's PJs and nightgowns were provided to a women's shelter; toques, mitts, gloves and socks provided to an emergency cupboard at a local

resource centre; a chapter provided handknit toques, lap robes and baby blankets along with diapers and a baby quilt to a primary care centre. A chapter supported *Out of the Rain* which is a place where homeless youth can stay by donating hats, gloves, underwear and other things the kids need. Elementary schools received hats and mitts. High schools received clothing for care cupboards and Graduation Proms, as well as gift cards to allow students to shop for themselves.

Items were donated to northern nursing stations and supported schools in Labrador.

Camperships and sports equipment

29,727.97

Donations of uniforms were made to a community baseball association, funds provided for special Olympics uniforms, and a video camera to a youth soccer team, as well as tie-dye supplies for a school camp T-shirts. Mackenzie Camp received funding that was used to pay for campers either in whole or part of the registration, and to local summer camping programs supported by several chapters. Funds were provided to assist a student attend a summer camp at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and to a Mission to send a kid to summer camp. Funds gave sponsorship of a local free skate, to a learn-to-skate program, and to a local curling club to assist with purchase of a new compressor. Donations of funds to minor baseball, minor hockey, fastball, ringette and swimming teams were made. Cross country ski equipment, golf balls, snow carpets were given to local community groups.

Service Animals and Animal Shelters

\$8,906.60

A chapter provided funds for adopted puppies from BC & Alberta Guide Dogs to support their training to assist and comfort autistic children, those suffering from PTSD or blindness and donated to plaque on the donor wall.

Towels, blankets, sheets, pet food and equipment such as dog crates and beds were donated to local humane societies, animal protection societies, Dog Guides of Canada to assist build a new centre and assist in training of dogs, and to SPCA facilities. Donations went to auctions for Animal Task Force and Spay and Neuter Association, financial donations were made to Animal Rescue Societies, Humane Society, Institute for Wildlife Conservation, SPCA.

Chapters supported the Community Association for Riders with Disabilities (CARD) with funds that cared for and fed the horses, to Equine Adaptive Associations and Therapeutic Riding Association, made monthly donations to support Orangutan rehabilitation. One member took her pet therapy dog to a local nursing home.

Books, Magazines, Toys, Electronics

\$23,338.69

Chapter members supported community centres by buying books and toys which were donated to preschools, kindergartens and Northern nursing stations. In honour of the IODE 125th Anniversary a chapter gathered 125 children's books for distribution. Boxes of new and used books, magazines, DVDs, knitted dolls, stuffed animals, and toys were given to hospitals, public libraries, museums, children's organizations, classrooms and schools, Christmas Bureaus, and to "little libraries" in several communities.

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library supplied books to children under the age of 5 in a chapter's school catchment area where children who were registered received a free book each month until they turn 5. The chapter tried to ensure all eligible were included and provided the funds for this. The Dorchester Library ran a summer reading club and members donated funds so each child could take a book home at the end.

A chapter supported the Sackville Music Festival and were listed as a sponsor on the programs. Books and toys were sent to the north. Fabric and books were donated to make and fill bookbags for several schools and programs. Authors donated books for sale at a Christmas Bazaar. Funds were provided to Santa's Workshop for gifts for men and boys. Used books were given to The Salvation Army,

a Vocational Thrift Store, Goodwill, and Big Brothers. Members donated their time to read to children and support book fairs. Adopted schools received items for teachers, and the Violet Downey Award winning book was given to schools, libraries, transition homes and shelters. Donations were made to support literacy training. A First Book Canada grant was attained to purchase books for an adopted school in Northern Ontario. Puzzles were given to senior's homes, a soup kitchen, local hospices, local libraries and women's shelters.

Medical, Dental, Vision and Emergency Aid **\$216,002.31**

Money and hand-knit items and baby supplies were given to hospices, pregnancy care groups, a Stroke Recovery Society for speech therapy, long-term Care at Hospitals, YMCA Pregnancy Resource Centre, an Air Ambulance Service and Hope Air, Ride for Cancer group, as well as Cancer Societies. Support was sent to northern nursing stations and women's shelters. Diapers and Depends were sent to northern communities and given to local Lodges. Used eyeglasses and sunglasses were provided through the Lions Club to Operation Eyesight International and to other vision support groups. A donation was made to a local family for medical expenses for their critically ill unborn baby. Emergencies at Home Fund was helped to assist a young mother and child with rent and other immediate needs.

Members made personal donations to Red Cross, Médecins Sans Frontier and Oxfam. A new \$10,000 installment was made to outfit another emergency response vehicle. Donations were made to a hospital for new community wellness centre construction and another to a Kootenay Lake Hospital Fund for equipment.

Emergency kits were provided to women's shelters and emergency departments, covers for catheter bags and hygiene items to a nursing home, hygiene products to high school pantry program, used canes were sent to a Guatemalan mission. Twiddlemuffs were provided to nursing homes and individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia as well as youth with anxiety disorders. Donations included dental grooming bags, Hospital Foundation-wigs for kids, Canadian Cancer Society-wig program, Cancer for Kids, Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation, walkers to nursing home, memorial donations to several hospitals, Children's Hospitals and Mental Health Associations. Donations to the Northern Star Mothers Milk bank enhanced their equipment inventory.

IODE BC donated \$190,635.00 from the Charitable Trust Fund to the UBC Department of Ophthalmology for a Bio-bank microscope to allow the research team to patients with glaucoma, retinal, corneal and optic nerve diseases and diseases that manifest in the eye including cancers, Alzheimer's, ALS and MS. IODE Alberta supported The Hope Mission outreach program that provides mobile non-emergency support for those struggling with a crisis that could become very severe (cold, heat, hunger, thirst, minor medical care, transport to care or shelter, etc.

Food hampers, foodbanks, food programs **\$165,293.70**

The provision of food and efforts to combat food insecurity, remained an important focus for most chapters. Donations of food, money or gift cards were made to many foodbanks across the country including fresh food programs, student nutrition programs, soup kitchens, teen lunch programs, school and community breakfast and lunch programs, food and toiletries given to school students to help at home, veteran's foodbanks, Meals on Wheels (including treat bags), and summer snack programs, Food for Learning programs, Food for Thought programs at schools.

Gift cards and food vouchers were provided to funerals, university foodbanks, women's shelters, nursing homes, single mothers, youth and homeless shelters, Ronald McDonald House and to churches. Christmas food baskets including personal care items and Easter treat bags were provided by several chapters. Proceeds of small garage sales were sent as grocery cards to supportive community programs. Coffee and donuts were given to homeless camps. Cash and snacks provided to after school programs. Seniors were given a Christmas parcel containing

baked goods and a little gift or a donation to a local charity in lieu.

Families adopted at Christmas time received hampers with groceries, personal care items, paper and cleaning supplies. Members brought and prepared food for school and church programs. Christmas treats were provided to senior's residences, shelters, foodbanks and a Veteran's foodbank. Meals on Wheels treat bags were delivered for Valentine's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving & Christmas. A chapter prepared food for their local soup kitchen; and some provided after school snacks. Food stuffs went to food banks, The Food Pantry, and to help some children at the school who had forgotten lunches or who just needed more breakfast, lunch, and snacks. One Christmas project included grocery cards to families in need who were not receiving help from other sources.

In addition to food donations, several meals were prepared and distributed at food banks, local soup kitchens, church outreach programs and food pantries. Food banks received grocery coupons, toilet paper, warm clothing, seeds, diapers and toiletries. 125th Anniversary donations included tins of food and financial contributions to foodbanks and outreach programs. Grocery coupons were provided to a Ukrainian refugee family.

Backpacks, fresh start baskets, personal care bags **\$56,973.07**

Chapters listed a wide variety of service activities. The following are examples of distributed items: grooming and personal care bags containing items such as sanitary products; breast pads, tooth paste and brushes and emergency toiletries to hospitals, hospices, shelters, crisis centres, healthcare centres, women's centre, and food banks; Tim Hortons and Walmart gift cards, sanitized stuffed animals to hospitals; gifts at Christmas to youth without shelter and mothers and families in shelters; toiletry filled purses to seniors centre, seeds and work gloves to drop in centre for their roof garden, retirement residence and community living residences; pediatric activity bags to the Health Alliance; art kits to Health Centres; handknit Christmas stockings filled with personal care items provided to senior's housing residents. Funds to Alternate Café with small class program providing healthy food and cooking for students unable to cope with regular school programs. Food gift cards to homeless youth.

Members filled backpacks with personal care items to an emergency care centre and the Salvation Army. Youth and senior centres were provided with craft supplies and personal care items while back to school bookbags were given to several schools and community support centres. Several groups received supplies for their emergency cupboards. Winter clothing and good grooming bags were provided to several emergency departments, home for unwed mothers, palliative care centres and women's shelters. Easter and Christmas gift bags were provided to adopted schools in Labrador, lodges, shelters, shut-ins, and Ronald MacDonald houses. Twiddlemuffs were made and delivered to dementia patients. One Christmas project included grocery cards to families in need and not receiving help from other sources.

Services Not Reported Elsewhere **\$141,831.07**

This category described a variety of service projects that did not confine themselves to single activities. Many of these projects have been running for a number of years and are well received in their supported communities.

A chapter sent boxes of new and used winter children's clothing as well as diapers and baby essentials to remote communities in northern BC. The residents at an addictions recovery facility for women received Christmas Gift Bags containing a Starbucks gift card, hand knit scarves, and chocolates. Newborn baby gift bags were delivered to a local hospital. A special-needs bed was given to a child, household items were provided to immigrant families.

More than one chapter focused on giving to babies by donating knitted baby wear, others provided warm winter clothing and footwear for those in need. Many chapters provided cash donations to organizations supporting those with greatest

needs such as a Distress Centre, Salvation Army, a charitable organization providing transportation to the elderly and disabled members of the community, Pregnancy Resource Centre and Northern Nursing Stations.

Members made personal donations to a broad range of groups in their communities. A chapter continued its support of the "Purse Project" with gift cards, goody bags and seniors' gifts; others supported tampon provisions in community centres, provision of new and gently used books to Little Free Libraries, a chapter continued its support of Youth Without Shelter program to assist students stay in school to graduation including plaques for graduates. Many members contributed hand-knit and crocheted stockings to be filled with small items and sent to children in the north. Milk bags were made into mats for the unhoused. One chapter supported a transition house with Christmas and Easter gifts for children and mothers; they received money from a Provincial Fund for iPads for a housing Society's clients to use and specialty mattresses for bedridden seniors living in a lodge. Donations were made to a Brown Bagging for Kids program that provides bag lunches for kids. Clothing items including hand-knit toques were donated to shelter and outreach programs, schools, and daycares. Large cash donations were made to support Christmas Hampers, a family with a medical crisis, Basically Babies, Women's shelters.

Warm winter clothing was delivered to shelters. Chapters provided senior citizen assistance, support of a women's addiction recovery home, support to members of community who could use a helping hand e.g. rebuilding after house fire or being able to go on a school trip. Christmas gifts were sent to children at Savant Lake school and to two infants in the community. Members sewed aprons for a schools new cooking class. Youth Without Shelter, Stay in School Program, received graduation achievement plaques and Prom tickets. Chapters supported Choral societies, Pro-Musica concerts, story-telling groups, banquet for high school graduates, door wraps at a Nursing home, items for woodworking classes, Christmas cards for armed forces, Tops for Tots at a regional hospital, night of bingo at a nursing home, deployment kits for overseas deployed Regimental members, acrylic paints for a visiting artists program.

Items were sent to Health clinics and northern nursing stations in Northern Ontario. Thirty-six pair of slightly used police boots were donated to Drop Inn Shelter, Alpha House, Mustard Seed and Fresh Start Recovery House and Youth Unlimited. This project has continued for many years. New baby items, knitted hats, sweaters, blankets diaper bag, potty seat, handmade quilts, and some stuffed animals were sent to elementary schools, shelters and daycares the Pregnancy care centre. Early literacy bags were prepared and donated to a women's shelter, the books and stuffies were always received with great appreciation.

Boxes of requested items were delivered to the Kirkland Lake OPP Detachment. These were picked up by the Indigenous Liaison Officer to be shipped via Nishnawbe Aski Police Services (NAPS) air to the Moosonee Family Resource Centre (women's shelter). Packages included baby blankets, small quilts, women's winter jackets, notepads, crossword booklets, adult artwork colouring books, packages of plain and coloured pencils, crayons, women's sweaters, jeans, wool hats, rubber boots and a variety of good grooming items. A further eight boxes of new and gently used items, knitted and crocheted Izzie dolls, were shipped to the Moosonee women's shelter in October via Kirkland Lake by a member who liaised with the OPP and NAPS which delivered the parcels (all containing requested items of gits and toys) through their air services.

Donations to Provincial Services Funds

\$9109.32

Members and chapters continued support for provincial projects in addition to the Provincial Services Funds (\$4,506). IODE BC closed their Provincial Services Fund and is in the process of retiring. Monies from the Charitable Trust Fund were used to support the Ophthalmology department at UBC, and from the Mary Emerson Trust

Fund to support projects for seniors around the province. IODE Ontario closed their Provincial Services Fund when their office was closed. Primary chapters in Ontario took over delivery of services to northern nursing stations and health centres. The following are examples of the support in other provinces: STAR Milk Bank and Veterans Food Bank in AB; Dr Crocker Kidney Research Fund, and Good Samaritan Fund in NS; Born to Read, IWK Health Centre Foundation, Portage Atlantic, and Roots of Empathy in NB.

Donations to National Services Funds **\$27,286.63**

Chapters continued to make donations to the National Disaster Fund. The \$5,000 set aside for rebuilding projects in Lytton BC after the devastating fire in 2021 has not yet been allocated. There have been only a few buildings built and despite several communications with the Parrish Council, no specific request for funds have been made.

The National Services Fund continued to help Provincial Chapters in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, shipping packages to northern communities. With the closing of the packing room and moving the office at IODE Ontario, Ontario will no longer use the services Fund to ship packages to northern communities. Chapters in the province have paired with Northern Nursing Stations to provide needed items.

IODE Snack Pack is a national program that provides nutritious snacks for children attending schools in remote communities in Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2025, the cost of IODE Snack Pack to 14 schools was in excess of \$43,000. IODE members, friends, and chapters responded to the call for donations again, allowing the program to continue. **(\$20,286.63 donated by 43 chapters)** The high cost of fuel was expected to contribute to higher costs for both food and shipping in 2026 and the budget was set at \$50,000. Chapters were encouraged to donate generously allowing us to assist children to learn. The schools reported how well the Snack Pack program has been received in their community.

STANDARD BEARER REPORT
Catherine Moore

Primary chapters across Canada submitted Standard Bearer reports for 2025 with 27 chapters reporting in Ontario alone and nine reports originating from New Brunswick. Most provinces reported parading or displaying standards at their provincial annual meetings and the Canadian flag was displayed along with the IODE Corporate Logo Flag at the National Annual Meeting. They were displayed at primary chapter meetings, Remembrance Day services, member funerals and special events. Standards displayed included the Canadian flag, the Union Jack and the IODE Corporate Logo Flag.

NATIONAL IODE WAR MEMORIAL REPORT
Hazel McLeod, War Memorial Officer

Provincial Convenors from across the country received 69 applications for the 2025-2026 national competition. From this number, 30 were recommended to the National Selection Committee for evaluation; 18 were from women, 12 from men.

The National War Memorial Selection Committee met on Saturday, 22 March 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom to select the top three scholars to receive IODE War Memorial Scholarships for 2025-2026.

After much discussion and comparison of notes, three candidates and three alternates were selected. Appreciation was extended to the committee, which consisted of President Jane Cushing, First Vice-President and Education Officer Karen Dalton, Past War Memorial Officer E. Anne Mason, War Memorial Officer Hazel McLeod and professors: Dr. Connie Bray, Dr. Celine Bourbonnaise MacDonald (from Ontario), and Dr. Ross Morton (from New Brunswick). It was a great combination of talent and they did an excellent job!

This year's field was again another unique group of scholars, which proved to create a challenging task with much debate, but all committee members were in agreement with the final selections. Three scholarships were awarded. One \$25,000 scholarship to celebrate IODE's 125th Anniversary and two scholarships worth \$15,000 each for studying in Canada or within the Commonwealth.

War Memorial Scholarship Applications 2025-2026

Province	Received	Recommended
British Columbia	11	4
Alberta	8	8
Saskatchewan	2	1
Manitoba	1	0
Ontario	29	11
Quebec	12	3
New Brunswick	1	1
Nova Scotia	5	3
Prince Edward Island	0	0
Newfoundland and Labrador	0	0
Total	69	30

Selected Winners for the Academic Year 2025-2026

Name	First Degree	Field of Study	Studying at
Stephanie Valboun Fernandes Garcia \$25,000	McGill University	Microbiology, Immunology and Infectious Diseases	Université de Montréal <i>The Strength of T cell receptors binding to self proteins impacts T cell function</i>
Peiyao Wang \$15,000	McMaster University	Oncology MD/PhD	University of British Columbia <i>Exploring the impact of outdoor air pollution on lung cancer patients who have never smoked</i>
Jasmine Zhang \$15,000	McMaster University	Clinical Psychology	University of Waterloo <i>The impact of digital media on children, youth and family wellbeing</i>

Selected Alternates (ranked)

Name	First Degree	Field of Study	Studying at
1. Jayme Stewart	MacEwan University	Clinical Psychology	University of British Columbia
2. Tyler Paetkau	University of Alberta	Population and Public Health	University of British Columbia
3. Jana Walkowski	Queen's University	Political Studies	Queen's University

Year	Received	Recommended
2025	69 Letters of Intent 99	30
2024	80 Letters of Intent 115	26
2023	96 Letters of Intent 133	25
2022	141 Letters of Intent 222	36
2021	83 Letters of Intent 102	25

Profiles of the 2025 – 2026 IODE War Memorial Scholars:

Stefani Valbon Fernandes Garcia

Stefanie Valbon completed her BSc and MSc in Microbiology and Immunology at McGill University, working under the supervision of Dr. Martin Richer. Her research focused on understanding how chronic viral infections influence the development of critical immune cells. During this time, Stefanie developed a deep curiosity about the complex mechanisms that enable the immune system to provide the correct level of protection.

Stefanie was pursuing her PhD at the Université de Montréal under the supervision of Dr. Heather Melichar. Her research focused on immune tolerance mechanisms that prevent immune cells from mistakenly attacking healthy organs, which can lead to autoimmune diseases. Stefanie aimed to apply her findings to enhance therapies for cancer patients. In cancer immunotherapy, immune cells are activated to target and kill cancer cells, but this often results in unintended off target effects. Stefanie's work sought to identify new mechanisms that could help prevent autoimmune complications in patients undergoing these treatments.

Stefanie aspired to become an immunology professor and lead an academic lab, dedicating her time and creativity to developing more targeted therapeutic approaches for autoimmune disorders. In addition to her research, Stefanie was passionate about making immunology more accessible to the broader community. She founded the *ImmunoThoughts* Blog, where she advocated for a more inclusive approach to explaining immunological concepts. Stefanie hoped to inspire young scientists, regardless of their background, to become the next generation of innovators in the field.

Peiyao Wang

Peiyao Wang was a fourth year MD/PhD student at the University of British Columbia (UBC). She grew up in Hamilton, Ontario, where she attended McMaster University to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Integrated Science. Specializing in Biochemistry and minoring in Statistics, Peiyao gained an appreciation for the interdisciplinary nature of research and explored a variety of research topics, including the surveillance of patients with cancer who received curative surgery and the risk factors predictive of vertebral fractures in children with bone-related diseases. She completed her honours thesis investigating the effects of cannabis smoke on viral immune response in the lung, which seeded her passion for lung health.

In culmination of her research interests and experiences, Peiyao was pursuing her MD/PhD at UBC to understand the role of outdoor air pollution in lung cancer initiation and development in patients who have never smoked. Supervised by Dr. William Lockwood at the BC Cancer Research Centre, Peiyao was studying pollution exposures in tissue culture in parallel with analyzing the genomic and epigenomic profiles of lung adenocarcinoma patients who have never smoked and have defined levels of cumulative pollution exposure in British Columbia.

Her research was supported by the Canada Graduate Scholarship awarded in 2023 and she contributed to her research field through multiple publications as well as conferences on both the local and international stage. Peiyao aspired to become a clinician scientist at a university-affiliated hospital in Canada, bridging the lab and the clinic with the ultimate goal to improve outcomes and experiences for people with lung disease.

Jasmine Zhang

Jasmine Zhang received her Honours Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Neuroscience and Behaviour (2020) from McMaster University. She went on to complete her Master of Arts (2022) at the University of Waterloo, where she was a third-year Ph.D. Candidate in Clinical Psychology. Her research explored the impacts of digital media use on the mental health of children, youth, and caregivers through a family-wide lens. She was also leading two international projects that seek to understand the implications of technological developments for child and family well-being. These focused on how microtransactions and in-game spending affect family functioning, and the integration of artificial intelligence in mental health services for children and youth. She had presented her research at various national and international conferences, published several first-author peer-reviewed journal articles, and written multiple book chapters. She had also mentored undergraduate and graduate students in the FamilyPsyche Lab. In 2024, Jasmine joined the inaugural cohort of Impact Fellows at the Children and Screens Institute of Digital Media and Child Development to further contribute to research and policy movements in her research area.

Jasmine also received advanced training in providing psychological assessment and intervention services for children, youth, and adults. She completed placements in various settings, including private practices, the Centre for Mental Health Research and Treatment at the University of Waterloo, the Waterloo Region District School Board, and Hamilton Health Sciences. Upon completing graduate studies, Jasmine hopes to pursue a career that combines clinical work and research activities.

Comments from winners:

Peiyao Wang:

"It is my absolute honour to accept this award. I am extremely grateful for this

generous support and this inspires me to redouble my efforts in my studies as I work towards becoming a clinical scientist."

Stefani Valbon Fernandes Garcia

"Thank you very much for the lovely call to share this amazing news with me. I'm very excited to accept this scholarship and it will be my pleasure to join the Zoom meeting in May."

Jasmine Zhang

"I am honoured to be a recipient of the IODE War Memorial Scholarship. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to be selected as a recipient of this prestigious award. Your generous support will allow me to further my work in graduate school and beyond."

All War Memorial Scholarship recipients attended the National Annual Meeting via Zoom and gave a brief, but very informative presentation of their research. Their passion and enthusiasm were very evident.

Many thanks to all the Provincial Convenors and War Memorial Committee members and the National Selection Committee. Thank you to Roma Dick and Mary Gan, the wonderful support staff at the National Office and to Renate Scheutz for the technical support to make this meeting happen and for the website information updates. IODE is a team effort, especially with the War Memorial Scholarships. Thank you!

NATIONAL OFFICERS 2025 -2026

President	Karen Dalton
First Vice-President	Renate Schuetz
Second Vice-President	Helen Danby
Secretary	Chris Bateman
Treasurer	Carol McCall
Citizenship	Catherine Moore
Communications and Public Relations	Renate Schuetz
Constitution	Carol McCall
Education	Helen Danby
Membership	Diane Ellison
Services	Liz Hancock
War Memorial	Hazel MacLeod

(By right of office)

British Columbia	Carole Yorke
Alberta	Janis Ogilvie
Ontario	Michelle Batty
New Brunswick	Margaret Mackay-MacNeill (deceased) Judy Graham
Nova Scotia	Anne Lawless
PEI	Gail MacLean

IODE FOUNDER - 1900

Mrs. Clark Murray (Margaret Polson)

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Mrs. Samuel Nordheimer	1901-1911
Mrs. Albert E. Gooderham (later Lady Gooderham)	1911-1919
Mrs. John Bruce	1919-1920
Miss Joan Arnoldi	1920-1922
Mrs. P. E. Doolittle	1922-1925
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Mrs. Ryland H. New, C.B.E.	1944-1948
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Mrs. Kathleen I. G. Drope	1953-1955
Mrs. L. B. Smart	1955-1957
Mrs. A. K. Richardson	1957-1960
Mrs. Peter L. Robinson (Eallien) C.M.	1960-1963
Pauline M. McGibbon, D.C., O.St.J. (later The Honourable Pauline M. McGibbon)	1963-1965
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Mrs. Gordon D. Leggett (Doris)	1968-1970
Reginae Tait, C.M.	1970-1972
Lorna Dean	1972-1974
Mrs. R. W. Adams (Joan)	1974-1976
Julia (Judy) Craik	1976-1978
Sally Douglas	1978-1980
Ruth Alexander	1980-1982
Ann McCartney	1982-1984
Barbara MacEachern	1984-1986
Helen Dick	1986-1988
Suzanne Williams	1988-1990
Jean Throop	1990-1992
Marty Dalton	1992-1994
Valerie Willard	1994-1997
Sandra Connery	1997-2000
Noreen Salari	2000-2002
June McDonald	2002-2004
Pamela Gallagher	2004-2006
Chris Bateman	2006-2009
Catherine Moore	2009-2011
Ann Dyer	2011-2013
E. Anne Mason	2013-2016
Bonnie Rees	2016-2019
Carol McCall	2019-2022
Jane Cushing	2022-2025
Karen Dalton	2025-

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