



OCTOBER 2025

Next issue deadline: November 7, 2025
Upcoming meetings: Friday, October 24, 2025

Friday, November 28, 2025

Editor: Nancy Nesbitt, edrocket18@gmail.com

Club secretary: Crystal, secretary.hcr@gmail.com

Next meeting - Friday, November 28 at 7pm

See you at Hastings Community Centre Auditorium (on the main floor)

If you need to attend by Zoom, please contact [Crystal for a link](#)

This is our Annual Winter Social and Annual General Meeting. We will elect a new Executive: how will you get involved and support our club?

Wine and Snacks Social:

Please bring a snack to share - finger food only (consider offering a gluten-free or vegan option to round out the buffet!)

N.B. No need to bring wine as the Club will supply as per our license.

Silent (and Blind) Auction: TBC if enough donations are received in time, there will be an auction hosted with the proceeds benefiting our Club!

- *Cash sales only*

Come out and show your support! Here's a fun photo from a previous fundraiser to whet your whistle!



In this newsletter you can expect:

- November meeting details
- HCR Club Election details
- Workshops Are Open!
- Enameling Workshop in January
- October birthstones
- How to reach us

HCR Club Membership and Elections' Info



Group photo from HCR's last field trip near Whistler - your BCLS membership comes with your HCR membership and enables you to participate in fun rockhounding adventures like this one!

Memberships are due by January 1, 2025

As we don't have December meeting, membership renewals take place at our November meeting. By renewing early, your contact information will be included in the BCLS directory and you will be able to attend workshops in January. We aim to distribute BCLS cards (proof of insurance) at the January meeting! (renewal rates to be confirmed at our October meeting. Last year's fee was \$20 for individuals and \$25 per family but with insurance provider changes may impact our 2026 rates)

Preparation for November Election

According to our constitution: A Nominating Committee was selected at the September regular meeting in the following manner: the President appointed one member, the Executive Committee appointed one, and the club selected one. The duty of the Nominating Committee is to select suitable candidates for each of the four (4) Executive Officer positions (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer), chairpersons of the Standing Committees of the club, and/or Special Directors for the coming year, and to provide a list of the candidates selected for publication in the notice of the Annual General Meeting and ensure that each member is informed of the duties of each elected position prior to nomination.

The nominating committee will be reaching out to canvas nominees. Elections will be at our November meeting. Nominating Committee includes Linda, Christina H, Erin and Bo.



HCR Club Membership and Elections' Info, cont'd.

The **Executive Committee** of the club shall consist of members holding the following positions (those who were **elected in 2025** are in parenthesis):

Four (4) Executive Officers –**President (Lucy)**, **Vice-President (Diane)**, **Secretary (Crystal)** and **Treasurer (Renee)**

Senior Delegate to the Lapidary, Rock and Mineral Society of BC (Dawn);

Intermediate (Nickell); Junior (Meghan)

One chairperson convener of each of the following Standing Committees:

Field Trips (Kyle & Wes)

Library (Joyce)

Membership (Nickell)

Program (Sara)

Publications (Nancy)

Publicity (Midori & Susan)

Show (Linda & Sante)

Social (Sophia)

Ways & Means (TJ)

Workshop (Jo)

The following special directors:

Delegate to Hastings Centre Board of Directors (Elly & Renee)

Director-at Large (Jacob)

Historian (Vera)

Sunshine (Elly)

DUTIES OF OFFICERS, COMMITTEES, DIRECTORS AND DELEGATES

The **President** shall preside over General meetings of the club and over Executive Committee meetings, and shall be ex-officio member of all club committees with exception to Special Complaints Resolution Committee. The President shall be a signing Officer.

The **Vice-President** shall, in the absence of the President, preside as chairperson of General meetings and at meetings of the Executive Committee, and otherwise assist the President and other Officers in the exercise of their respective duties as may be required. The Vice-President will also be the club's Delegate to the Hastings Community Association's Program Committee. The Vice-President may also serve as a signing Officer in the absence of the President.

The **Treasurer** shall be the custodian of all club funds and shall sign all cheques for the withdrawal of such funds as are required from time to time, along with any one of following; the President, the Secretary or in the absence of the president, the Vice President. In the event the treasurer is unable to sign cheques, the president shall be one of the signers. The Treasurer shall keep accurate records of the receipts and expenditures of club funds and shall report the financial position at each meeting of the club. The Treasurer shall also submit all records to an auditor at the request of a General meeting. The Treasurer shall be a signing Officer.



HCR Club Membership and Elections' Info, cont'd.

The **Secretary** or alternate shall attend all meetings of the club and of the Executive Committee and record accurately all minutes and proceedings of every such meeting in a minute book to be provided by the club, shall receive and file all reports, keep or cause to be kept proper books and records in all respects of the business and affairs of the club, and conduct all correspondence of the club, also see clause 10, as directed by the Executive Committee in a prompt and efficient manner. The Secretary shall be signing Officer.

The **Field Trips Committee** shall arrange and supervise field trips for the club, and ensure that first aid equipment is available and, if possible, have present a member who is qualified in level 1 first aid. He/she shall also ensure that all participants on the field trip are members in good standing.

The **Library Committee** shall purchase and catalogue books and periodicals and care for them; shall acquaint members with titles of such books as are available, supervise the loan and return of books and magazines and collect fines for each overdue month.

The **Membership Committee Chair** shall receive all applications for membership, collect club dues, see that membership cards are issued; maintain attendance records at all meetings, ensure that guests sign the guest book and that they are introduced to those assembled at the meeting; issue copies of the Constitution and Bylaws, Workshop Rules and Regulations of the Hastings Centre Rockhounds, Rockhound's Code of Ethics, Vancouver City Code of Conduct, Respect Policy and Complaint Resolution Procedures, Respect in our Club Orientation Pamphlet and the British Columbia Lapidary Society By-Laws to all members; issue annually a list of the names and addresses of all willing members to each member and to the Lapidary Society; keep the Records of Orientation Completion; keep the club advised of the number of members to date, and report to the Hastings Community Centre on attendance at each General or Special meeting held at the centre.



HCR Club Membership and Elections' Info, cont'd.

The **Program Committee** shall arrange for programs for the General meetings, and keep the Executive Committee advised of future program plans.

The **Publications Committee** shall prepare and issue the club's publication, "The Rocket", and such other publications as the Executive Committee may from time-to-time request. "The Rocket" shall be distributed electronically or pick-up to all interested members of the club, and to certain other clubs and individuals upon request. A copy will be posted in the workshop.

The **Publicity Committee** shall arrange for publicity for the club and the club's Annual Show; shall send news items to appropriate magazines and to affiliated associations; and attend to other special notices. As part of the Publicity Committee a Webmaster shall maintain the Club's website.

The **Show Committee** shall organize and co-ordinate the club's Annual Show, its participation in the Annual BC Gem Show of the Lapidary Society, and any other displays and shows in which the club may decide to participate.

There are many ways to support the club! If you aren't able to take on an Executive role, consider helping to sell Ways & Means tickets, bring snacks to meetings, or donate items for auction. If you are interested in volunteering to help organize Rendevoez 2026 - please check in with Nickell at the next meeting.



HCR Club Membership and Elections' Info, cont'd.

The **Social Committee** shall be responsible for purchasing and serving refreshments for General meetings and for the Annual Club Show and other special functions as requested, as well as for arranging for the club's annual dinner.

The **Ways & Means Committee** shall be responsible for the raffle held at General meetings, including the purchase or receipt of donations of prizes, conduct of the raffle and recording of receipts and expenses, and shall propose special projects to raise money for the club if required from time to time.

The **Workshop Committee** shall be responsible for ensuring that all equipment in the club's workshop is kept in working order; shall purchase new supplies and equipment; shall keep a record of all receipts and expenditures connected with the workshop and report thereon to each General meeting; shall coordinate the arrangement of classes and, together with class instructors, ensure that the rules and regulations governing the use of the workshop are up to date and adhered to.

The **Director-at-Large** shall substitute for any officer of the club unable to attend any meeting (except that in the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall substitute). Any officer of the club unable to attend a General meeting or a meeting of the Executive Committee should advise the Director-at-Large in advance of the meeting in question, and submit any report to be made through the Director-at-Large.

The **Historian** shall keep a journal of club activities; collect pictures, hard copy or soft copy, from members for scrapbooks and a slide collection of slides submitted by members as well as any other material pertaining to the history of the club.

The **Sunshine Director** shall be notified by members of the club of any special circumstances that might require sending "get well" cards, condolences or congratulations to members.

The **Delegate to The Hastings Community Association's Board of Directors** shall attend monthly meetings of that Board to report to it on the activities of the club and to keep the club informed of the activities of the Association.

The **Delegates to The Lapidary, Rock and Mineral Society of British Columbia**, as per BCLS rules, shall act as representatives of the club at meetings of the Lapidary Society, reporting to it the views of our club and reporting to the club on the activities of the Society. In particular, participation by one or more delegates or designate at the Annual General Meeting at Rendezvous is required.

*A note about the 3 delegates to the BCLS: We will be electing the junior delegate who will serve for 3 years, Next year the junior delegate become the intermediate delegate and then senior delegate the year after. Our current senior delegate will step down as the current intermediate delegate rotates into the senior position.



Workshop Hours

Workshops are back - but please visit our [website](#) to confirm scheduling, and monitor your HCR email for last-minute changes.

Schedule

Monday (6:30 pm – 9:30 pm) – **Lapidary**
Instructor: Jo or Renee
Wednesday (9 am – 12 pm) – **Silversmithing***
Instructor: Robert and Diane
Wednesday (1 pm – 4 pm) – **Lapidary**
Instructor: David and Steve
Thursday (6:30 pm – 9:30 pm) – **Lapidary**
Instructors: Tim and Daniel
Friday (1 pm – 4:30 pm) – **Lapidary**
Instructors: Richard and Al
Saturday (9 am – 12 pm) – **Silversmithing***
Instructors: Crystal and Robert
Saturday (1 pm – 4 pm) – **Lapidary**
instructor: Robert.

Please note that the schedule is subject to change based on instructor availability.
Changes are often announced by email.

***Beginners to Silversmithing** are asked to [contact Crystal](#) before attending. Instruction is available only at the Saturday session and there is a \$45 beginners kit with supplies needed for silversmithing.

- [Workshop rules and regulations](#)



Enamel Class - Tuesday, January 6, 2025

Be sure to sign up at
the next meeting -
space is limited!!

Register with Dawn or
Crystal.

Celebrating 65 Years!

Mark your calendars for our Club's 65th Anniversary Gem and Jewellery Showcase to be held March 14 and 15 here at HCC. Details to follow!

Birthstone of the Month

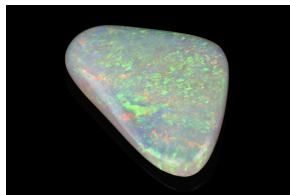
reference IGS International

October - If you are lucky enough to be born in October, you have the choice of two gorgeous gemstones: Opal and Tourmaline. India is credited as the source of the first opals brought to the Western world. In Sanskrit, its name is upala, a "precious stone." In ancient Rome, this became opalus. Most opals are valued for their shifting colors in rainbow hues – a phenomenon known as "play-of-color."

Australia is the most productive in the world for this October birthstone. Ethiopia, Mexico and Brazil are also important sources. Additional deposits have been found in Central Europe, Honduras, Indonesia, Madagascar, Peru, Turkey and the United States.

Tourmaline is modern October birthstone. The name comes from the Sinhalese word toramalli, which means "stone with mixed colors," because it often has multiple colors in one crystal. Very few gems match tourmaline's dazzling array of colors. Perhaps this is why ancient mystics believed this October birthstone could inspire artistic expression – it has a color palette for every mood. Among the most popular are the pink and red rubellites, the emerald green "chrome" tourmalines, and the neon green and blue-to-violet "paraíba" tourmalines.

Because of its vast range of colors, tourmaline was often mistaken for other gemstones. One of the "rubies" in the Russian crown jewels, the "Caesar's Ruby" pendant, is actually red (rubellite) tourmaline. A Spanish conquistador found green tourmaline crystals in Brazil in the 1500s and confused the stones with emerald. These and other cases of mistaken identity continued for centuries until scientists recognized tourmaline as a distinct mineral species in the 1800s.



*Thank you for reading!
next issue deadline: November 7, 2025*

THE ROCKET	HASTINGS CENTRE ROCKHOUDS
www.hastingscentrrockhounds.com Newsletter Editor: Nancy edrocket18@gmail.com	Hastings Community Centre 3096 E. Hastings Street Vancouver, BC V5L 2A3