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Patchwork Press

A newsletter for the
Durham Trillium Quilters' Guild

durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca
dtqguild@gmail.com

October 2025

President's Message

Debbie W.

Happy Fall Quilters

As the days get shorter and cooler our thoughts begin to turn to getting together with friends and family for Thanksgiving and sharing a meal together pondering on all the things we are thankful for.

31 quilters have signed up for our upcoming stay at home retreat!! We have great meals planned and some fun activities. Should be a good weekend.

As we become familiar with our new meeting space the executive has decided to make a couple of little changes in order to help the meeting be more fluid and hopefully a new setup for the

space will enable everyone to have a better view of the speaker as well as the Show and Share portion of the meeting.

At this time we still have not had anyone step forward to take over the Library. We will be having a brief discussion at the next meeting regarding the future of our Library. Please give some thought as to how important you feel it is for the Guild to continue to have a Library going forward.

We will be voting on this as a membership at the October Guild meeting. If you are not able to attend the meeting but would like to share your thoughts. Please send your comments to the DTQG email and we will consider them as well in our discussions.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

Warm Regards
Debbie W
DTQG President

Vice President

Debbie K.

Hello, my quilting friends,

Wasn't it wonderful to meet up in September and catch up with each other? There was such great energy flowing through the room as we visited and reconnected.

The new room setup seemed to encourage more interaction and gave us a smoother flow, being able to see each convenor, get our business done, and of course share lots of hugs. As your Executive, we've made a few more tweaks for the next meeting so everything runs even smoother. A big thank-you to those who helped with the setup, it makes a difference for all of us.

Our speaker, Kleo, did an amazing job sharing her quilting journey, from her beginnings to where she is now. I know she has many more stories and projects to share but just hearing how she started and what she has created so far was inspiring. For someone who doesn't feel comfortable speaking in front of a large group, she held us beautifully with her humour, honesty, and creativity. Kleo reminded us that quilting doesn't have to fit neatly into rules—sometimes it's perfectly fine to just fly by the seat of our pants (something I appreciate and do once in a while!).

Looking ahead, I'm excited for our next meeting, when many will be sharing their wearable and other-use quilts with us. It's amazing to see how quilts are not just for beds or couches but can be fashioned into anything our imaginations dream up. Quilting gives us space to be creative, to challenge our minds, and—yes—to challenge ourselves with our vocabulary when things don't go quite as planned. That's when it's time for a “date night with Jack.”

Each one of you is deeply appreciated for what you bring to the Guild and the community. We simply would not be who we are without you. Whether you share your talent on display, lend a hand with setup, or step into a role on the Executive, every contribution strengthens us. If you've ever wondered whether your efforts matter, let me assure you—they do. Even the smallest acts of volunteering ripple out in big ways.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Staycation Retreat at the beginning of October and, of course, at our next Guild meeting on **Tuesday, October 14th at 7 pm**. Until then, have fun creating your wondrous quilts, enjoy the process (even when Jack visits), and know that you are valued and cared for.

Talk to you soon,

Debbie K, VP

The Heartbeat of Our Guild: Volunteers

Debbie K.

When you think about what makes a guild strong, what comes to mind? For me, it's not the fabric, the patterns, or even the quilts themselves,... it's the people who show up and give of themselves.

A volunteer is someone who says "yes" when there's a need, whether that's setting up chairs, bringing a plate of cookies, organizing a program, or stepping into a leadership role. Sometimes it's big, visible jobs. More often, it's the small, behind-the-scenes things that keep everything running smoothly.

Every single role matters. Think of a quilt—each piece may look small on its own but stitched together they create something beautiful and strong. Our guild is no different. When each of us shares a little of our time or talent, we create something that couldn't exist without us.

If you've ever wondered, "*Do I really have anything to offer?*" the answer is yes. Your willingness, your perspective, your presence—all of these bring value to our community. You don't have to have years of experience or loads of free time to make a difference. Even the smallest jobs can have the biggest impact.

We have openings coming up, and I encourage you to consider saying "yes." Step into a role. Try something new. You'll not only help our guild grow and thrive, but you'll also discover the joy that comes from being part of something bigger than yourself.

Please know that you are appreciated. You are valued. You matter. The strength of our guild is in the hands of those who are willing to give just a little of themselves. Together, we can keep building a community that is welcoming, creative, and strong.

Past President

Laura B.

Hello fellow quilters!

The long nights are over – walking the dog in the evening now requires a flashlight! Ah well, this means that quilting season is upon us.

NEW MEETING LOCATION

The September meeting was our first at our new location (Kingsview United Church, [505 Adelaide Ave E, Oshawa, ON L1G 2A4](#)) and went quite well. There were sufficient tables and the Zoom worked well. Some suggested improvements were given and we will do our best to have things work more smoothly as we proceed.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY – LIBRARY CONVENOR

The library convenors who were elected at the June Annual General Meeting have unfortunately had to step down from their position. For the guild to be able to provide our library at our meetings, we need to have a volunteer oversee the library. If you are willing to volunteer for the guild library convenor position, please see me during the October guild meeting. Note that we will be able to store our books at the church, so transporting them to each meeting will not be required.

2025 - 2026 DTQG President's Challenge

We will be running a President's Challenge again this year. The cost to participate is \$5 per entry. The funds collected will cover the expenses and prizes. Sign up is available on the website (<https://durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca/presidents-challenge>). There is no limit on the # of entries per person, but there can be no more than 50 entries in total.

The President's challenge for this guild year is to make a miniature post card sized quilt. Guidelines are as follows:

- A 4" x 6" post-card backing (with typical postcard lines) will be provided. This must be attached to the back of the miniature quilt that you submit.
- The quilt can use an established design or pattern or be an original design.
- The required dimension are exactly 4 inches by 6 inches.
- The quilt may be portrait or landscape orientation.
- There must be quilting (minimum is a front and batting quilted before being attached to postcard).
- No label is needed on the completed post-card.

Quilts for the challenge are to be submitted to Laura B. and can be submitted any time up to and including the May in-person meeting. Please submit inside the bag provided, along with the quilt submission form..

If unable to attend the May meeting to submit your quilt, please either have a friend bring it to the meeting or contact the Vice President or Past President for other options.

Submitted quilts will be judged by the President and winners will be presented at the June meeting.

Secretary
Jacqueline H.

This month the President and I did double duty in ensuring the RETREAT is full to capacity. 31 Quilters will be happily sewing their hearts out. And we reinstated the age old piece of offering registered massages to those at the retreat that wanted one :)

Quilt Show
Jacqueline H.

Many hands make light work! It takes the will of the Guild to run a quilt show. Without the will of the guild, there is no quilt show. Without a quilt show either the guild either 1) only runs for 2 more years, or 2) Finds other ways to generate the \$8000 needed to run the guild for several years or 3) Increase memberships substantially to generate the \$8000 ish or 4) the Guild Folds.

So... we need your help! We have started to fill the positions for the upcoming (2027 ish) quilt show! We are still seeking a Chair for the entire show. If you are interested in helping out as a chair of a committee... or just want to be part of the team, please keep your eyes peeled to upcoming news.

Program Convener
Gail L.

On Tuesday, October 14, 2025, we will have a member presentation of wearables and accessories. I hope many of you will participate by modeling your fashion creations, bags, shoes, aprons, hats, etc. Hopefully our distance members can participate with the help of our zoom wizards, Debbie and Laura.

We look forward to having Johanna Masko present for us on November 10, 2025. She will be talking about modular quilting where you can machine quilt even large quilts on your domestic sewing machine. Our block of the month program will also be helping you with a Quilt as you Go method.

The program for our 2025-2026 guild year is posted on our DTQG website. We have five great speakers and three meetings with member presentations. Our December meeting will feature a quilt shop visit and June is our Annual General Meeting. A great value for your money and sure to provide lots of inspiration and time to visit with other quilters.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our new location, Kingsview United Church, 505 Adelaide Ave. E., Oshawa. We are meeting in the gym which has its own entrance.

Gail L., Program Convener

Quilt Block of the Month Convener

Diane W.

Thank you to those who signed up for this year's Block of the Month focused on QAYG!

As I mentioned during the September meeting, I booboo'd ☺ in thinking the pattern was available by PDF. Unfortunately, it is not. As such, we are going to take an extra month to get started so I could order the pattern for those that wanted to use Atkinson Design's Lucky Star.

The good news is it has now arrived! I will bring it to October's Guild Meeting. With taxes and shipping, **the cost of the pattern is \$20**. If you asked me to get you a pattern, please bring cash to the meeting.

If you don't want to use the Atkinson pattern but still want to participate in all the fun, you absolutely can! The objective is to learn **Quilt as you Go (QAYG)**, not the pattern itself. My recommendation is still to use a star block in the middle with a wide sashing around it. Lucky Star has a 15.5" unfinished block. Sometimes my instructions will be based on that size of unfinished block. If your block is going to be a different size, that may cause you some confusion so please be aware.

For October, we will just work on blocks to get ready to begin QAYG after the November meeting.

Please do not bring blocks to the October meeting. Hold tight until November so those using the pattern have time to catch up.

To get an idea of where we will end the year, here is a quick video to get an idea of the QAYG technique we will be using called the **Easy Cover Strip Method by Monica Poole**.

https://youtu.be/xsRmMDkZGxo?si=uzJnW_y1oFhCAw9Y

If you did not sign up but are interested in joining the fun it is not too late. Come see me in October!

Sew Day Social Convener

Jacqueline H.

- Sunday September 28th from 1-4 pm
- Friday October 10th from 1-4 and 7-10 pm
- Sunday October 19th from 1-4 pm
- **Friday October 31st ... “ZOOM HALLOWEEN PARTY” 7PM – MIDNIGHT (with hourly draw prizes for those in costume)**



For those new to ZOOM sew days...

Just a few pointers to make your day as enjoyable as possible :)

1. Bring a large glass or container of water. We do play a drinking game, when you see someone else take a sip you do too! We try to stay hydrated.
2. Bring paper (loose leaf book perhaps), as you might want to take notes at guild meetings and on sew days. Many of us have thought “oh gee... I will remember this” then the next day sent out a cry for help because they didn’t write the website or technique down :)
3. If there is lots going on in your quilting area (significant other taking a phone call etc), please “mute” yourself. As the host I can mute you, but it might be faster if you do it (as I am certain the person in the room with you doesn’t want to share their entire phone conversation with 20 quilters they don’t know).
4. Come for the entire time, or half the time, or just for a wee bit of time. Whatever works for you! We are happy to share quilting time (regardless of how long or short you can stay).

Other than that, I am looking forward to meeting you soon.

We are a nice and kind group.

Yours in Quilting Stitches, Jacqueline

Membership Convener

Angie S.

We currently have 91 members with 10 being new. Welcome to the new members and we hope you will enjoy all that the Guild offers.

Remember to wear your name tags to our next meeting to be entered into a draw for a couple of fat quarters.

See you all at the October meeting.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone,

Angie S.

Membership

Social Convener

Judy B. and MaryLou H.

Thank you to our Executive volunteers that provided our treats at the September meeting. There was a good variety of delicious items for us to enjoy.

We thank the following members for volunteering to bring treats to the Tuesday, October 14th meeting. We are asking for 18 treats from each volunteer and a reminder that no nuts are allowed.

Kelly L, Robynn W., Linda A., Peggy F., Shirley J., Melissa F., Nancy G.

The sign up sheet will be available on the treat table at the October 14th meeting as we are short a few volunteers for our November, April and May meetings.

The guild is excited to let you know that we will be having a pot luck at our December 8th guild meeting. More details will be available later.

PLEASE REMEMBER -

NO NUTS OF ANY KIND ALLOWED AT THE CHURCH

LUG-A-MUG (AND PLATE IF YOU LIKE)

BRING YOUR OWN PREFERRED SUGAR SUBSTITUTE/SWEETENER

Show and Share Convener

Patricia K.

The September meeting saw many quilts from our many talented members. Thank-you President Debbie for drawing my name for September's prize! I believe that the way we lined up in our new venue worked well for showing our creations, so let's try that again.

I encourage you to bring all quilts at various stages of completion (ie: toppers/flimsies) to show and share. However, only completed quilts are eligible for the monthly draw which includes three criteria. The quilt needs to be quilted, bound AND labelled. Please show the convenor all your completed quilts as you get a ballot for each completed quilt. Let's have a little fun for October's meeting. If you have a completed or flimsy/topper Hallowe'en themed quilt you will get to complete 2 ballots for that quilt thus increasing your odds for winning!



Community Outreach Team

Team Members: Kate H., Lyne M., Carolyn L., Sharon L., Janine L., Diane W. & Dorothy M.

What an inspirational meeting last month at our new location. I was overwhelmed with the number of items that you, our members worked on over the summer and am truly grateful for your support of our program. We still have lots of kits ready for pick up at the meeting. While there is NO deadline to get things done, we would appreciate returning them no later than the April 2026 meeting. The cold winter months are coming and good sewing time post holiday season.

Just a reminder of our current programs for this year:

- **Community Care – Meals on Wheels** Placemats : 12" x 16" is the preferred completed size
- **Comfy Cases** Pillowcases (hot dog type are super easy)

- **Quilts of Valour:** We will gladly accept completed tops with binding, and completed quilts on their behalf. Ensure they meet their size criteria (minimum size 50 x 70, maximum size 60 x 80) and include binding fabric with your quilt top. For more information on the Quilts of Valour program, visit their website: <https://www.quiltsofvalour.ca>
- **Quilts for Survivors:** We will accept quilt tops with binding on your behalf. They have no minimum or maximum sizes, however, they do have specific criteria about the types of fabric patterns they would like in the quilt tops created for the Survivors. For information on that, please visit their website at <https://www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca> check out their 'contribute' page for details.
- **The Pregnancy Help Centre** has asked for flannel receiving blankets and bibs if you have some time to make either of these, we will make the delivery. We support them with quilts as well, and they are so very grateful for the beautiful items they receive from us.
- **Lakeridge Health NICU** unit is looking for isolette covers and flannel receiving blankets as well. The size they are looking for is roughly 40" x 44". We will facilitate a drop off after the October meeting. As a mom of a preemie baby born at LHO, I know firsthand how well these are cherished.

If you are cleaning out your sewing room, we will always accept neutral yardage to go along with the wonderful fabric donations we have on hand.

If you wish to support us by making a complete quilt, that is absolutely amazing and we love those. Please make sure your name and the size of the quilt is provided when you hand it in at the meeting. Ask for a label anytime at the meeting. Labels should be sewn on before handing in.

Mark your calendar: We are planning to have another sew weekend May 2 & 3, 2026. Many hands make light work on these days. Details coming soon, once we have figured out the time etc.

Do you belong to a service organization and maybe looking for a quilt for a silent auction or raffle quilt? Contact Dorothy or Kate to see what we have on hand.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the October meeting in our new facility!

Community Outreach Team

These are the 2 charity quilts we currently have on hand for your service organization to use as a silent auction or raffle quilt. The brown quilt is 81 x 84". The blue & white one is 76 x 76". We ask for a minimum bid on silent auctions and hope your group raises a good amount from these.

Contact Kate or Dorothy M for more information.



Scrap Basket Convener

Kathy D. and Gwen VN.

Hello Quilters,

We are looking forward to receiving your fabric scraps to be looked through by your fellow quilting friends. It is always fun to dig through the big pile and find a few new to you pieces to add into your quilting creations.

DTQG Scrap Definition: a scrap is a piece of fabric BIGGER than your outstretched hand and at least as wide as your palm. Of course it is also 100% COTTON quilting fabric. Please DO NOT add in any polyester, silk, drapery, linings, shortening pant leg cut offs, etc!!! We purge those fabrics as our Scrap hunters are only looking for 100% COTTON scraps to add into their quilting creations.

Workshop Convener

Grace R.

I am planning a Fun Sew Day workshop in November and working toward a Fidget Workshop in February. My goal is for each participant to have their own workspace. The workshop is designed for you to work, laugh, chat and share helpful tips and tricks throughout the day.

You will need to bring your lunch and a mug for these workshops.

The first workshop date is November 8. Other dates will be announced as soon as I have the venues secured.

Your workshop Convener, Grace R.

Raffle Quilt

Laura B.

Hi fellow quilters! I wanted to give you advance notice that the poodle rescue I work with is raffling another quilt this year, and I have permission from the DTQG executive to sell tickets for the quilt at our October and November meetings. If you'd like to buy tickets, I can take cash or credit cards.

Below are two photographs of the quilt. This king-sized quilt was made by the Prince Edward County Quilters' Guild as their 2023 raffle quilt. The person who won that raffle then donated the quilt to Standard Poodles in Need to raise funds for the poodles in our care. The quilt is valued at \$2,000 and all funds raised go to the expenses for the dogs (e.g., veterinary care, food, training). Tickets are being sold for \$5 for a single ticket or \$20 for 5 tickets, and only 1000 tickets have been printed. Tickets will be on sale up to December 5, 2025 and the draw will take place on December 11, 2025 at 1 pm, at Dashing Hounds, 1366 Queen St. E, Toronto. (City of Toronto Raffle License held by Helping Homeless Pets, License #M871559. Proceeds support Standard Poodles in Need.). For more information about the rescue, we have a website (<https://standardpoodlesinneed.com/>) and can also be found on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/standardpoodlesinneed>).





From the Community

Dear Guild Members,

On behalf of the clients, staff and board of Catholic Family Services of Durham's Rose of Durham Young Parent Support Division, I would like to sincerely thank you for your donation of baby quilts.

Our clients are rarely able to afford some of the basic necessities of life, never mind the cozy handmade blankets you provided us for our layettes. Every parent wants to nurture and spoil their new little baby, and because of your generosity, our clients will be able to.

Thank you so much for considering our organization worthy of such generosity. It is both touching and inspiring. We wish you the best.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Pierce, BSW, MSW, RSW
Executive Director

Dear Durham Trillium Quilters' Guild Volunteers,

On behalf of everyone at Fairview Lodge, I want to extend our deepest gratitude for your generous donation of quilts and walker bags. Your thoughtful and beautiful quilts and bags have brought warmth, comfort, and joy to our residents, many of whom cherish these gifts during their stay with us.

Your dedication and kindness truly make a difference in the lives of those we care for. The time, effort, and love you put into creating these quilts are evident in every stitch, and it means so much to our community. These quilts not only provide physical warmth but also a sense of connection and care that brightens the days of our residents.

Thank you once again for your generosity and for supporting our mission to create a nurturing and compassionate environment for residents upon admission. We are incredibly fortunate to have volunteers like you who help make our home a place of comfort and hope.

With heartfelt appreciation,

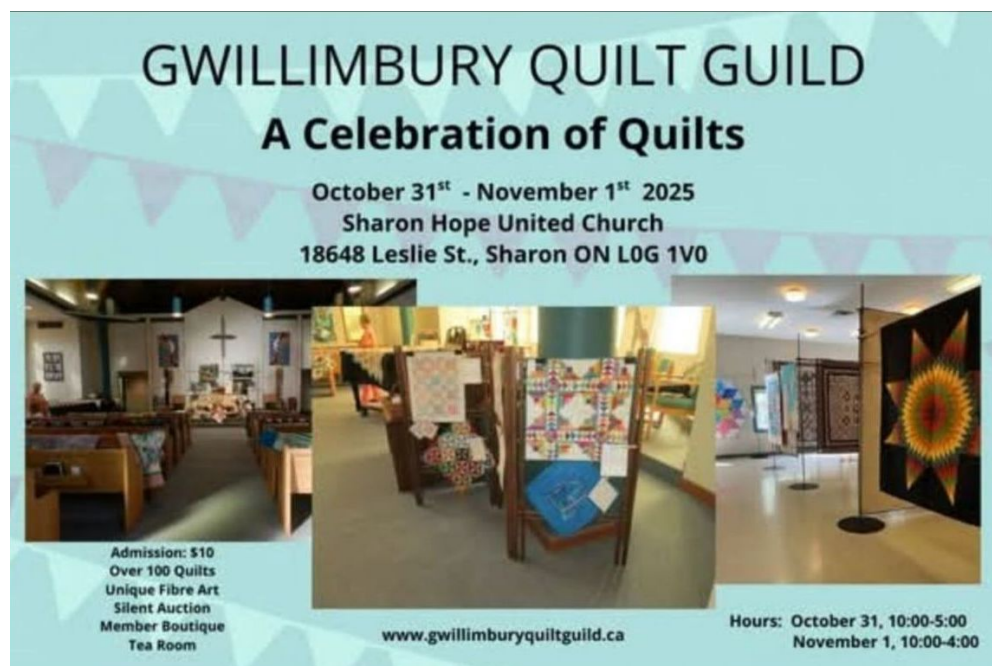
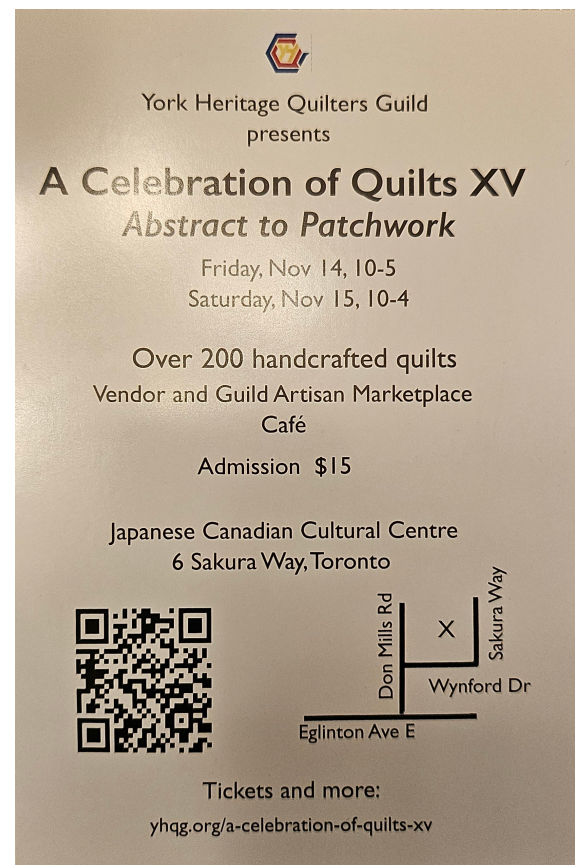
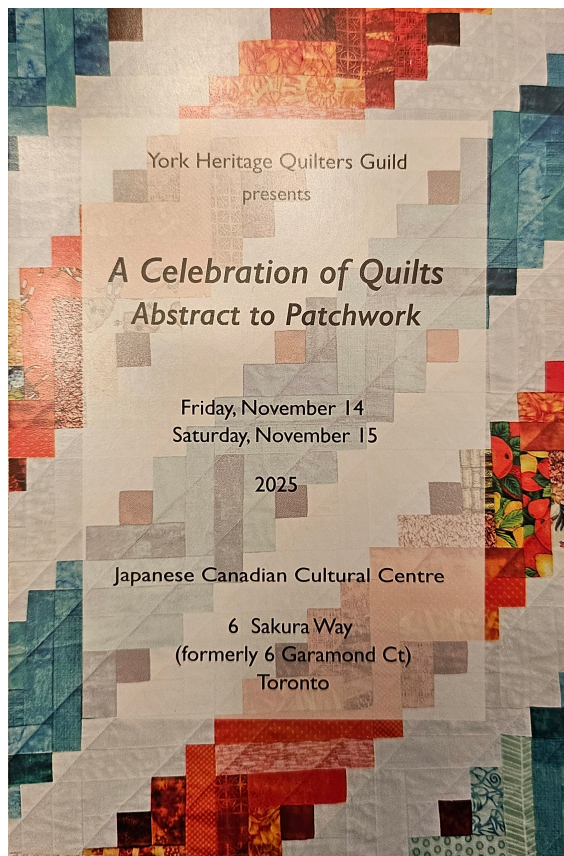
Tanis Lafferty Head

Dear Durham Trillium Quilter's Guild,

I am writing to express my gratitude for the donation you made to the Muslim Welfare Home shelter. As you know, we are the sole shelter for women and children experiencing homelessness in Durham Region. Your donation of handmade quilts will help support the clients here at the shelter. Once again, thank you so much for supporting Muslim Welfare Home, and the women and children we serve.

Sincerely,


Laka Ford
Housing Coordinator
Muslim Welfare Home





Knitting & Quilting

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materials needed
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Our company was founded in the early '80s and was one of the first fabric, yarn, and sewing stores in the area.

📍 191 Dundas Street East, Belleville

📞 (613) 966-9964

🌐 kraftvillage.ca

Register for the 2025 Run

Scan the QR Code below to register as a participant for this year's run. You'll be notified of any important updates throughout the run and receive a **FREE block pattern** in your inbox on October 1st.





CANADIAN REALTOR QUILT TOP CONTEST 2025



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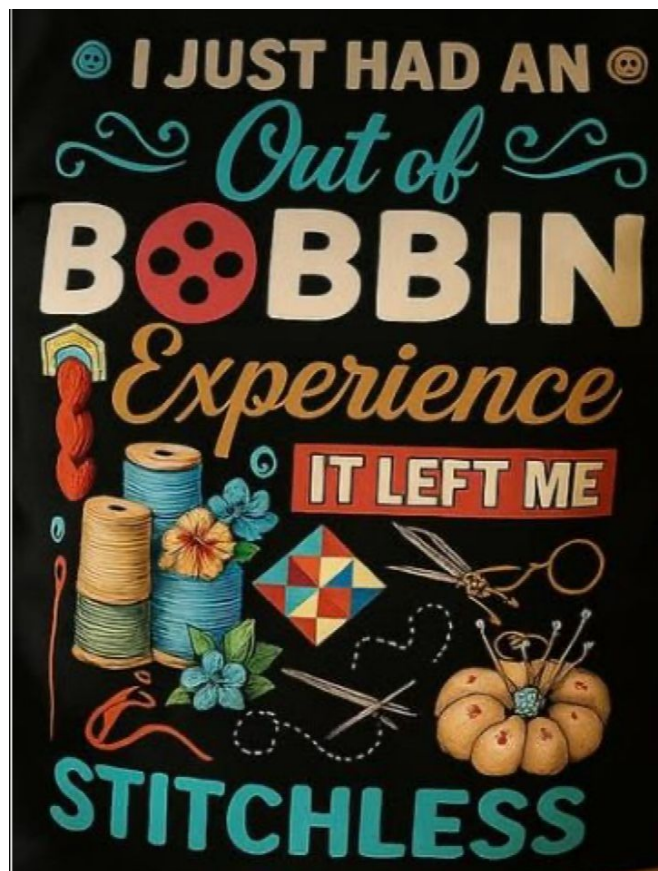
- ✓ Make a Quilt of Valour Top (flimsy) as per the instructions found at: <https://www.quiltsofvalour.ca/what-we-do>
- ✓ Donate your Quilt of Valour top during the contest period (11 Sep 2025 - 31 Jan 2026) to an QOVC Regional Rep
PRIZE DRAW ON QOVC NATIONAL SEW DAY 6 Feb 2026
- ✓ Email a PHOTO of your quilt top with your NAME, ADDRESS and PHONE NUMBER to contest@quiltsofvalour.ca

For **EACH** Quilt Top +
Email entry submitted
You will be entered in
the draw.

GRAND PRIZE:
b37 MSRP \$1299 with
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