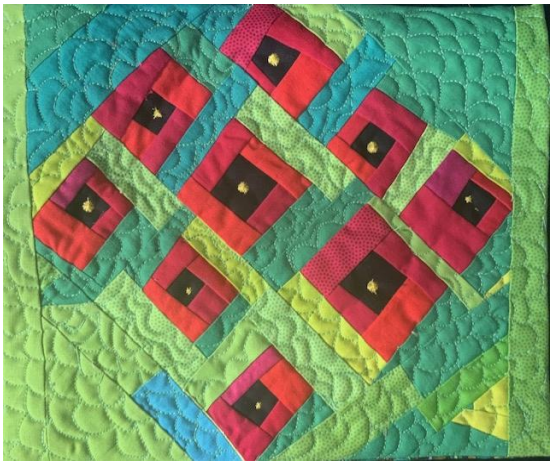
ROYAL CITY Quilters' Guild

November 2026 Newsletter

Editor: Ruthie Snell

Executive Update



Welcome fellow guild members.

November is a month that brings me mixed feelings. As a military veteran, I appreciate that service members are recognized on Remembrance Day. This year is particularly bittersweet considering the horrific fire at CFB Wainwright, Alberta.

Quilts of Valour is such a wonderful way for our guild to support and recognize the sacrifices of our service members. The warmth and caring provided by the quilts we create and donate are greatly appreciated and provide solace for injured veterans and their families.

Our guild members generously share their time, skills and resources, creating items that support people in our communities through our Outreach program. We have donated to groups including Welcome to Waterloo, A Place of My Own, and St. Joseph's Palliative Care. This season, our primary focus is Quilts of Valour and Habitat for Humanity.

I am so proud of all our guild accomplishes. Thank you all.

Kim H
President

Volunteer Needed



RCQG is seeking a Webmaster to update and maintain our website. After many years of dedicated effort, Becky F. is ready to focus on her creative quilting endeavors. She has very ably set up the technical side of our guild. It is now time for someone else to take on the task of keeping our online presence current.

Do you have the technical skills required? The position would be a 1- to 2-hour commitment per month, with an annual 6 to 8 hours to update program and workshop information. Our website uses Word Press for its operations. If you are the person we are looking for, please contact: president@royalcityquiltersguild.ca

November Program: Seminole Patchwork with Kristin Echols



Beautiful, intricate—and rich in history. In November, Kristin Echols will take us beyond the striking geometric designs of **Seminole patchwork** to explore their origins among the Seminole people, and the important role patchwork played as a source of income. Through examples of clothing, crafts and quilts spanning the decades, Kristin will introduce us to the significance of these distinctive designs and show how they continue to inspire contemporary quilt makers. A longtime teacher of Seminole techniques, Kristin brings more than 15 years of teaching experience—and a deep enthusiasm for sharing this remarkable patchwork tradition.

SEMINOLE PATCHWORK

- Learn about the history of the Seminole Indians and their vibrant patchwork techniques
- Explore their method for using strips of fabric to create intricate designs
- Learn the significance of the different patterns
- View modern-day Seminole quilts









KRISTIN LAURA DESIGNS

Dawn H

Workshops

Hello All!
Day 1 of **Jackie O'Brien's One Block Wonder workshop** was on October 24. Registrants learned how to align their panels, cut their strips and triangles, and are now busily sewing dozens of hexies together in preparation for Day 2, which is the design day.

Many of the registrants are looking forward to our annual retreat, to share and continue to work on their project in advance of Day 2.

There are spaces remaining in our remaining two workshops of this guild year. The workshops are held on Saturdays and are virtual via Zoom.

Our next workshop is **Kristin Echols' "Seminole Patchwork"**, on Saturday Jan. 23, 2027. This is a technique class to learn the concepts of Seminole strip piecing. During the session, students will create 4 to 5 distinct Seminole patterns. Each student will receive instructions for 10 unique Seminole designs, along with several variations. By the conclusion of the workshop, participants will have mastered the necessary skills to assemble all the designs. These versatile Seminole bands can be made into a quilt or table runner, added to quilts as borders and accents, or used to embellish clothing and home decor projects.










Website: KristinLaura.com

Our third, and final workshop of the guild year is **Monika Henry's "Improv For Planners"**, on Saturday April 10, 2027. Monika has designed a system that helps students organize their quilts and give them the structure they love in a pattern, without determining how the quilt will look at the end. Students get to play with fabric but have a roadmap and know it will look great when it's finished. This workshop includes:

- a pre-workshop handout to help you pick fabrics
- a 30-page pattern with layouts, block patterns, assembly instructions, and how to use the system
- approximately 2 hours of instruction
- 4 hours of live sewing time
- expert guidance during the workshop for questions



Website: https://www.pennyspoolquilts.com/

For more information on these workshops and to see pictures of the workshop content, please visit the guild's website:
https://royalcityquiltersguild.ca/activities/2026-2027-virtual-workshops/
To register for workshops, please visit the store on the guild's website at https://rcqg.square.site/

Please note: Workshops are not recorded.

Cheryl Christoffersen
Workshops

Community Outreach: Quilts That Make a Difference

As we begin another year of Community Outreach, RCQG members have many opportunities to use their quilting skills to make a difference in the lives of others.

This year, our two major Guild projects are **Quilts of Valour** and **Habitat for Humanity Guelph Wellington**. Members can also support causes that are especially meaningful to them through our Members' Choice program.

Throughout the year, we'll share information about these projects, celebrate members' contributions, and highlight ways in which everyone can participate.

November Spotlight: Quilts of Valour

With Remembrance Day approaching, November is a particularly meaningful time to recognize the work of Quilts of Valour Canada.

Quilts of Valour provides quilts to Canadian Armed Forces members and veterans who have been injured or affected by their military service. These quilts are tangible expressions of gratitude, comfort, and recognition for their service and sacrifice.

RCQG has a longstanding commitment to this important program. Through the generosity of our members, we contribute quilts that will eventually be presented to deserving recipients across Canada.

There are many ways to help!

You don't have to make an entire quilt to contribute. Members can participate by making quilt tops, helping with quilting or binding, contributing suitable fabric, or joining one of our organized Quilts of Valour Sew Days.

Whether you prefer to work independently or enjoy sewing alongside other members, there is a place for you in this effort. The Outreach team can help you get started with information about projects, available materials, and how to contribute your finished work.

For more information, visit the Quilts of Valour section of the RCQG website or contact the Outreach team at outreach@royalcityquiltersguild.ca.

Every quilt represents many hours of care and generosity. Together, RCQG members can make a meaningful contribution to those who have served our country.

Saint Joseph's Palliative Care Unit

On the 30th of September, Saint Joseph's Palliative Care Unit was pleased to receive several quilts created by our members. The donated items provide comfort to the patients and their families.



Kim H. and April T. delivered the lovely quilts to Simon, the chaplain, plus Nancy and Lara, social workers at Saint Joseph's. The guild has made several donations to Saint Joseph's Palliative Care Unit in recent years. Thank you to our generous and talented quilters.



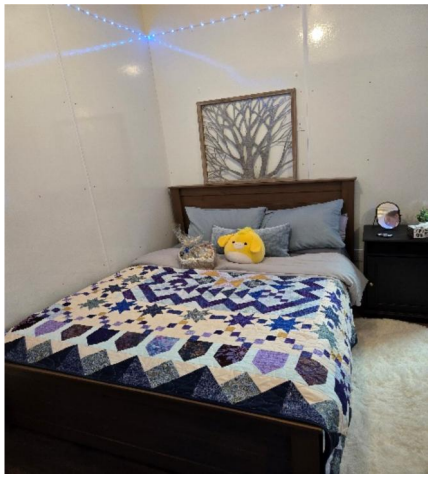
Kim.H. presenting another quilt to the Palliative care Unit at St. Joe's.

Welcome to Waterloo Supportive Housing Initiative

Recently, I attended the Open House at Welcome to Waterloo Supportive Housing Initiative. What an inspiring afternoon. So many organizations are working together to help young people find their way to independence through supportive housing. Our very own RCQG is one of the groups giving a helping hand to these young people. Here are a few photos of bedrooms featuring quilts created by our fantastic volunteers. Many thanks to our generous guild members. April T











Help

Are you a Long Armer, Mid Armer or Domestic Machine Quilter? RCQG has several quilts that are ready for Quilting! Quilting Kits will be available at the Mingle on November 2nd, or we can make arrangements for porch pick-up in Guelph, Elora, Heidelberg or Burlington. If you cannot help us now or are not sure how to contribute, please touch base with Kathleen Knight via the Outreach email address: outreach@royalcityquiltersguild.ca

Reference Sizes for Community Outreach Quilts

Quilt Sizes

Outreach Projects:
QOV Minimum of 55" x 70" to a maximum of 72" x 84"
Habitat for Humanity minimum of 60" x 80" to maximum of 72" x 84"

Other Organizations:
Linus Baby 36" x 36" to 40" x 40"
Linus Children 40" x 40" to 50" x 60"
Linus Teenagers up to 60" x 70"

Victoria Quilts can be 50" by 70" +/- 2". Quilt must be backed with Flannel. Or, if you would like to make a top only, RCQG will donate for you.

Children's Aid accept the same as Linus; however if intended for a teenager, please make 60" x 80".

Other Useful Sizes:
Baby Quilt 40" square +/- 3"
Crib Quilt 28" x 51"
Twin with 6 inch overhang 51" x 81"
Double with 6 inch overhang 67" x 85"
Queen with 6 inch overhang 72" x 86"

Small Throw 42" x 60" +/- 4"
Medium Throw 54" x 70" +/- 6"
Large Throw 70" x 70" +/- 10"

The +/- on the throws is to be used to adjust the patterns based on the block size and/or border width as required

Mingle-Quilts of Valour

Join us for a fun-filled day of quilting, community and creativity.

Date: November 2nd 2026
Time: 10 am to 4 pm
Location: Royal Canadian Legion branch 234, at 57 Watson Parkway S. in Guelph.

We'll have coffee, tea, snacks and – of course – plenty of good company.



Preparing another community outreach project to be ready for the next Mingle.

What to bring

- your lunch
- a mug
- basic sewing tools
- a project

Pick up a kit for Quilts of Valour. I hope you'll consider joining us for this project. Whether you make one block, one top, or several, your contribution will help us share comfort and kindness to veterans who have served our communities and country.

An Additional Call for Quilts of Valour: CFB Wainwright

On October 17, a devastating fire during a military training exercise at Canadian Forces Base Wainwright, Alberta, claimed the lives of four Canadian Armed Forces members and injured 39 others. Our thoughts are with the families of those who lost their lives and with the injured soldiers facing what may be long recoveries.

Quilts of Valour Canada is working to provide quilts to those affected by this tragedy. While the organization is responding to the needs arising from Wainwright, it will direct donated quilts wherever they can be put to best use, ensuring that its resources support as many deserving recipients as possible.

RCQG members who would like to contribute an additional quilt are encouraged to do so. Quilts can be submitted through our Guild's Quilts of Valour representative, who will coordinate their delivery through the established QOV network.

For members who would prefer to contribute financially, the Quilts of Valour Canada Foundation is also seeking monetary donations to help purchase batting and backing for quilts. Donations can be made through the Quilts of Valour Canada website.

Whether through a completed quilt or a financial contribution, every act of generosity helps bring comfort and recognition to those who have served our country.

April T

Let's Sew at Buy the Bolt!



Our next Buy the Bolt Sew Day is November 11th. We have room for eight people. Watch your inbox for the invitation and RSVP to grab your spot early. Thank-you! to Jeff and Heather Fisher, owners of Buy the Bolt.

Buy the Bolt: Second Wednesday of each month, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Located at 450 Woodlawn Rd. West, Unit 11 in Guelph. Any questions? Contact April using contact information in the Guild Directory.

RCQG 2026 Retreat Update



RCQG's third annual sewing retreat is at Hidden Acres Mennonite Retreat. Mark your calendar now for November 22-26! It's not too late to register – **we still have a few spaces left!**

Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp & Retreat Centre is located at 1921 Line 37 in New Hamburg, Ontario. For more information about the venue, visit their website https://hiddenacres.ca. The cost for our retreat is $483 for shared rooms and $550 for single occupancy rooms. This price includes 12 meals, four nights lodging, day / evening snacks, gratuities, and a table for all your equipment and projects.

Please visit RCQG's online store at https://rcqg.square.site to register. While payments are non-refundable, they can be transferred to someone else should an emergency arise that requires you to cancel your attendance. In that unlikely case, we will try to help you find someone interested in purchasing your spot.

All participants will need to bring sheets, towels and pillowcases. Pillows and blankets are provided. Two weeks prior to the retreat, Monica will ask for all dietary restrictions so the caterer can do her best to accommodate any special dietary needs (e.g. food allergies). Please note the venue is accessible and accommodating. We look forward to spending the last week of November with you! If you would like to help plan activities for the retreat, please reach out to April T. We want to hear your best ideas! Our email addresses are in the Guild directory.

Retreat Organizers:
April T & Monica F

Membership



This is a recent photo of a glorious maple tree in my backyard. I truly love this tree that I see out of my sewing room window. It reminds me of the passing of the seasons year over year. The other marker of the change of seasons is how I get to decorate the house with my Autumn, Halloween and Christmas Quilted pieces. How about you?



Welcome to Our New Members!
Since our last Newsletter, we've welcomed 3 new members: Shelley C., Caroline H. and Sharon S. Two of the three joined because of our Refer a Friend Program. Don't forget to tell your Quilty friends about our wonderful Guild. If you meet our new members – on line or in person – please say hello!

Fall Fireside Chat – October 29, 2026
I have been busy putting together the Slide Show for the Fall Fireside Chat. By the time you read this, seven executives and seven new members will have had an informative and inspiring evening together. The Show and Tell photos reflect what talented members we have at RCQG. Another Fireside Chat is slated for April 29, 2027.

Membership Directory & Guild Information
I have recently issued a draft of the above document to all members asking you to verify your information. If there are any changes, please send them to membership@royalcityquiltersguild.ca Once I have updated any changes I will reissue the final document in early November.

Until next time we "chat",
Sharon B
Membership Convener

Library

Over the past several years, the Executive has been aware that circulation of our library books has been very limited. This was formally confirmed at the September 2025 meeting, when the librarian advised that usage of the collection was low.

The Executive has entered into discussions to move the collection to the public library system. This approach ensures that the books remain accessible, are more likely to be actively used, and continue to benefit both our members and the broader quilting community.

Throughout this process, the Executive has acted in accordance with the Guild's governance documents. As with other Executive decisions, details of the plan will be shared with the membership once arrangements have been finalized.

The Guelph Public Library will review the collection and select items suitable for their system. Remaining books will be offered to other nearby library systems.

Anyone who currently has checked out a Guild book will receive instructions on how and when to return it.

Show and Share Presentation and Quilt Whispering



Submissions for both Show & Share and Quilt Whispering are due by 7 pm Eastern on the Saturday prior to our regular monthly meeting.

You can submit your photos by using the "Get Involved" page on our website (https://royalcityquiltersguild.ca/get-involved/) and clicking on the “Submit to Show and Share” button to upload and describe your finishes. Or you can email your photo(s) and descriptions to showandshare[at]royalcityquiltersguild [dot] ca
Let’s celebrate the creative ways RCQG members make space for quilting – big or small!

Would you like some quilting design help for a quilt top? Photos of your quilt tops for Quilt Whispering can be sent via the “Get Involved” page of the Guild website or by e-mail to showandshare[at]royalcityquiltersguild [dot] ca We select one submission per month for our group collaboration.

We’d love to see your latest projects! Click on the quilt below to see the Show and Share from the last meeting.



Treasurer's Report



Helen Kocmarek and Mario Piccinin holding the Alaska Rainbow quilt

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the community services and businesses that support our Guild through financial donations, discounted supplies, donated services, and advertising dollars.

Mario Piccinin CPA, CA and Gryzna Szymura CPA, CGA of the chartered accounting firm Caissa LLP provided the 2025–2026 year-end financial report at no cost to the Guild. Mario was delighted to receive an Alaska Rainbow quilt made by Becky F. and Kathleen K.

Please tell our newsletter advertisers that you are a RCQG member and that you've seen their ad in the Guild's newsletter. Our advertisers appreciate the feedback and know that they are getting value for their advertising dollars.

Buy the Bolt in Guelph donates their classroom once per month for a Guild sewing day. The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 234, provides the meeting space for in-person Mingle and Quilts of Valour sew days. And of course, thank you to the Royal City Quilters' Guild members who donate their time, talents, materials, and money for outreach projects in their home communities, and for supporting the day-to-day operations of the Guild. Many hearts, hands, and minds carry the load.

I am pleased to report that the Guild had a successful year-end financial review. The review completed by Caissa LLP was accepted by the members who attended Annual General Meeting Part 2 on October 13, 2026. Income from membership fees, carried over grant funds, and member donations covered the expenses for guest speakers, website and technology fees (Zoom, email services, Groups.io, and security), outreach materials (backing fabrics and batting), storage space rent, liability insurance, 35th anniversary celebration expenses, and general office expenses. All grant money was used in 2025-2026. The executive is looking for new grant opportunities.

Retreat and workshop expenses are paid for by the attendees. The Guild does not provide financial support for these events. The executive team is mindful of our obligation to serve our members in a fiscally responsible manner.
Helen K – RCQG treasurer

International Quilting Day 2027



We are pleased to announce our keynote speakers for this year's International Quilting Day!

Jennifer Chiaverini is the New York Times bestselling author of thirty-six novels, including critically acclaimed historical fiction and the beloved Elm Creek Quilts series. Her works of nonfiction include seven collections of quilt patterns and original designs featured in Country Women, Quiltmaker, Quilt, and other magazines. In 2020 she was awarded an Outstanding Achievement Award from the Wisconsin Library Association for her novel "Resistance Women".

A graduate of the University of Notre Dame and the University of Chicago, she lives with her husband and two sons in Madison, Wisconsin.

Luke Haynes is an innovator, internationally acclaimed in quilting and fine art circles. Quilting has been a survival tool in his early years dealing with poverty and autism. Its has become a lifelong practice of transformation. He is widely recognized as a pillar of the modern quilting movement. His training as an architect has lead to his creation of large-scale quilted structures and public art installations. He is equally well known for his innovative approach to portraiture. Every one of his pieces is made entirely from salvaged textiles. He is proud to have diverted over 100 tons of clothing and fabrics from landfills.

Luke Haynes' quilts have been exhibited in over 200 museums and galleries worldwide; he has expanded people's understanding of what quilts can be: sculptural, architectural, and narrative.

In 2020, Luke started making Affirmation Quilts with his wife, and leaving them in public spaces with a note explaining the quilt is free to take and keep. This idea has spread internationally, with many artists picking up the practice. Luke's ethos is creating order from chaos, building care in his community, and honouring the power of comfort objects.

Share Your Talents at International Quilting Day!

We're looking for a volunteer to represent the Royal City Quilters' Guild as a concurrent speaker at our **International Quilting Day celebration on March 20, 2027**.

Do you have a quilting technique, project, experience, or special interest you'd enjoy sharing with quilters from all three participating guilds? We'd love to hear your ideas!

Your session will be 60 minutes, including time for questions and answers. We'll provide a tech helper to assist you during your presentation, so you can concentrate on sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm.



Looking for inspiration? Visit the **Archives** section of royalcityquiltersguild.ca to see speakers and topics featured at previous International Quilting Day celebrations.

Interested? Please contact Kim president@royalcityquiltersguild.ca with your proposed talk title and a brief description of what you'd like to present.

Stash Busters

October/November

April T S will guide us through Delectable Mountains from Border Creek Station. See Delectable Mountains. This versatile pattern is scrap-friendly, fat-quarter-friendly, and yardage-friendly, making it a wonderful choice for using up fabrics from your stash.



The quilt is made from a single block. The blocks can also be made in different sizes, depending on how large you would like your finished quilt to be, and the sizes of your scraps.

What makes this pattern fun and interesting are the many different ways the blocks can be arranged. Be sure to take a look at the various layout options provided with the pattern.

What's Up At the Canadian Quilters' Association (CQA/ACC)

What's Up At Canadian Quilters' Association (CQA/ACC)
The fabrics for both the Trend-Tex and Youth Challenges are available now and the speaker webinar program has started up again. If you are a member, the latest version of the CQA magazine should have arrived in your mailbox!



JN Harper Youth Challenge
All the details about the youth challenge were outlined in the October newsletter. If you need a reminder check out the CQA website here. The fabric definitely makes you think about "my happy place", the challenge theme. To get the sample, simply email youthprograms@canadianquilter.com

TrendTex Challenge
The theme for 2027 is Foothills and Peaks, and kits with 5 FQs (2 batiks, 3 cottons) are now available. These Northcott fabrics easily conjure up visions of the forests and ice caps on the Rocky Mountains, but it could very well be that for you, foothills and peaks have nothing to do with mountains! CQA members can order now at https://canadianquilter.com/product/trendtex-2027-challenge-kit/ for $25. Non-members can order starting January 1 for $35.



Speaker Webinar Series
This month's speaker is Leanne Parsons, from Newfoundland. The topic is "WIPs-B-Gone" (aka UFOs, PhDs, Flimsies) and be honest, we all have them! Leanne will share tips and suggestions to get you motivated to get them done, and it doesn't matter if you are a beginner or experienced quilter. She loves scrappy quilts and apparently tiny pieces; 1 ½" HSTs are nothing out of the ordinary for her.

So save the date, November 18th, 7 pm ET (-5UTC). CQA members can sign up here, cost $10. Non-member cost is $15 and sign up here. the video recording will be available until November 22.

Jane Sanders, CQA Liaison
cqaliaisonrcqg@gmail.com

Advertisements

We would like to thank all our advertisers for their continued support of our Guild. Please support our local quilt stores and service providers! Clicking on an advertisement will take you to that company's website. If you would like to advertise your business within our newsletter, please contact: advertising[at]royalcityquiltersguild.ca












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RETREAT



A Quilter's Dream Getaway in the Heart of St. Clements

Escape to a luxurious retreat made with makers in mind. Nestled minutes from the charming St. Jacobs Market, Anita Retreat is a beautifully curated home designed for those who love to create, connect, and unwind — all in refined style. Comfortably sleeping 14 guests, with 12 beds, this home is the perfect creative retreat.



What Makes Anita Retreat Perfect for Quilters?

- ***Dedicated Crafting Stations:*** Each guest enjoys a personal 6-foot table, with 3 design boards
- ***Convenient Elevator Access:*** Home is equipped with an elevator, making it simple to transport your supplies between floors
- ***Pressing Facilities:*** With 4 ironing stations available, you can effortlessly press and perfect your quilting pieces.

And more!



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Opportunites

Workshop with Joan Hug-Valeriote



Workshop with Daisy Aschehoug - "Swoopies"

The London Modern Quilt Guild -Canada is hosting the amazing **"Warm Folk" - Daisy Aschehoug** in her workshop "Swoopies"! We will be learning how to combine a variety of precise curves with improv piecing in a full day workshop.



Guest registration is open now-workshop is Nov 23 2026, 9 am-3:30 pm.

https://www.londonmodernquiltguildcanada.com/store/p97/Daisy_Aschehoug_Workshop_-_Guest_Fee.html

Quilt Shows

Quilt Canada

June 16-19, 2027

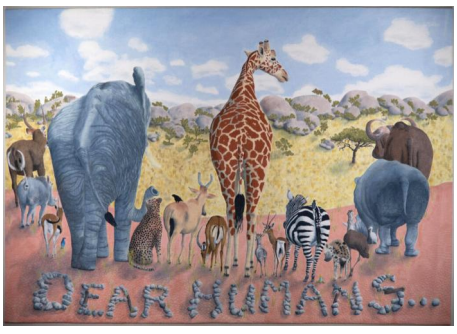
Sue Sherman at Homer Watson

Many RCQG members will remember Sue Sherman's inspiring visit to our guild a few years ago, while others may have admired her award-winning wildlife quilts at Quilt Canada and other major exhibitions. Now there's an opportunity to experience her work up-close right here in our area.

Sue Sherman is an internationally recognized fibre artist from Newmarket, Ontario, known for her breathtaking wildlife art quilts. Using hand-painted dyes, thread painting, and free-motion quilting, she transforms fabric into remarkably realistic portraits of animals, often inspired by her own photography. Her work combines extraordinary technical skill with a deep commitment to wildlife conservation and environmental awareness.

The Homer Watson House & Gallery is currently featuring an exhibit of Sue's work—a wonderful chance to see the detail, artistry, and emotional impact of her quilts in person. If you enjoyed her presentation at RCQG or have ever stopped in your tracks to admire one of her quilts at a show, this exhibit is well worth a visit.

Learn more at https://homerwatson.on.ca/whats-on/sue-sherman/





World of Threads 2026-27

Location: *Oakville, Ontario, Canada*

Dates: *Sept. 23, 2026-Jan. 17, 2027.*

Open 7 days a week. *Admission is FREE*

Hours: *Mon. - Sat. 10 am-5 pm. Sun. 12-4 pm.*

Address: *Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre,*
2302 Bridge Rd, Oakville, Ontario, Canada, L6L 2G6

